Men-at-Arms

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German Troops in the American Revolution (1)

Hessen-Cassel

Donald M. Londahl-Smidt • Illustrated by Jeff Trexler

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Series editors Martin Windrow & Nick Reynolds

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HESSEN-CASSEL

INTRODUCTION

The *Landgrafschaft* (Landgraviate) of Hessen-Cassel was formed in 1567 when Landgraf Philipp I *der Großmütige* ("the Magnanimous") died and his lands were divided among his four sons. Hessen-Cassel was located in southwest Germany with its capital in Cassel (now Kassel); its population in 1775 was approximately 350,000 and its religion Protestant.

To increase revenue, beginning in 1687, the *Landgrafen* began to hire out their soldiers to other countries such as the Electorate of Bavaria, the Dutch Republic, the kingdoms of Denmark and Sweden, and the Republic of Venice. A number of other European powers – among them the Electorate of Brandenburg, from 1701 the Kingdom of Prussia – also conducted this practice. In 1715, King George I of Great Britain contracted with Landgraf Charles I to supply 12,000 Hessian soldiers to assist him in defeating James Edward Stuart, known as the "Old Pretender" and "James III." In 1719, Great Britain, France, the Habsburg Empire, and the Dutch Republic formed the "Quadruple Alliance" to guarantee the succession of the reigning families of Great Britain and France and to settle the partition of the Spanish monarchy. In 1726, to fulfill British obligations under this alliance, Great Britain once again hired Hessian soldiers. The following year, Great Britain and Hessen-Cassel concluded a treaty whereby for an annual payment of £125,000, Great Britain would have first call on hiring Hessian soldiers. In 1731 another treaty was concluded whereby for an annual payment of £241,259, 12,094 Hessian soldiers were kept available for British service. The subsidy treaty was renewed in 1745 after which Hessian troops were only available to the British. In both that year and in 1756 Hessian troops were brought to Britain to help repulse threatened invasions by the Jacobites and the French, respectively. Subsidized by the British, Hessian forces served on the continent in "His Britannic Majesty's Army in Germany" during the Seven Years' War (1756–63).

The gartered coat of arms of Friedrich II. (Rs-nourse/ Wikimedia/CC BY-SA 4.0)

From 1760 to 1785 the Landgraviate was ruled by Landgraf Friedrich II. His first wife was Princess Mary, the daughter of King George II of Great Britain and aunt of King George III of that country. Following Friedrich II's conversion to Catholicism in 1749, Mary left him and took their three sons to the independent county of Hanau, ruled by Erbprinz (Hereditary Prince) Wilhelm I, the eldest son of Friedrich II and Mary. Although Mary died in 1772, Wilhelm I did not reconcile with his father until 1783. When Friedrich II died, he was succeeded by Wilhelm as Wilhelm IX.

RECRUITMENT AND ORGANIZATION

In 1762 Landgraf Friedrich II promulgated a Canton Regulation tying each unit of the army to one of 20 specific geographic areas. An annual muster was held to identify and enroll every eligible male, and to classify his role in the civilian economy. Male subjects were normally entered on the rolls between the ages of 18 and 25. There were exemptions from serving in the garrison regiments and the amount of time each man spent on active duty during the year was reduced. In addition, many occupations were exempted from having to serve in the field regiments. Valuable workers went into the garrison regiments while those who were less valuable for the civilian economy served in the field regiments. Generally, the draftees in both the field and garrison regiments had to serve 24 years. Those men in the garrison regiments were drilled once a year between mid-May and mid-June – after the fields were sown and before the hay was harvested. The field regiments served at full strength during the spring maneuvers. For the remainder of the year approximately one-third of each unit was on furlough at any one time.

In 1774 the Landgraf issued a new Canton Regulation. In addition to continuing the assignment of field regiments to particular cantons, with several exceptions, each company in the regiment was allocated a specific district or jurisdiction within the canton in which to recruit.

At the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War (1775–83), the Landgraf's army consisted of eight cavalry units; a Guards regiment (Regiment Garde) of three infantry battalions; one grenadier, seven musketeer, four fusilier, and six garrison regiments; an invalid corps of three companies; one *Leibjäger* company; one company of field artillery; and a small unit of garrison artillery.

Except for the Garnisons-Regiment von Huyn, which had no grenadier company, and the Grenadier Regiment Rall, all six companies of which were grenadiers (one being termed the *Flügel-Grenadier-Compagnie*, or 'flank-grenadier company'), each infantry regiment consisted of a staff and six companies: five of musketeers or fusiliers, and one of grenadiers. Each regimental staff was composed of one quartermaster, one regimental surgeon, one drum major, three surgeon's mates, six *hautbois* (oboists), one gunsmith, and one provost martial (*Profos*). Each musketeer or fusilier company consisted of four officers, eight non-commissioned officers (NCOs), three drummers, and 90 privates. One of the NCOs was a *Freicorporal* (officer candidate) who was a nobleman and carried the color. The strength of the grenadier company was four officers, seven NCOs, two fifers, three drummers, and 90 privates, six of whom were pioneers. In each company two NCOs, one drummer, and 30 privates were on leave at any given time. One of the subaltern officers – ensigns (*Fähnriche*) and lieutenants – acted as the regimental adjutant.

THE HESSIAN CORPS

The treaty concluded between the representatives of Great Britain and Hessen-Cassel at Cassel on January 15, 1776 called for the Hessians to furnish 12,000 men to serve the British in North America or Europe. This corps was to consist of a general staff, four battalions of grenadiers of four

companies each, 15 battalions of infantry of five companies each, and two companies of "chasseurs" (*Jäger*), the whole provided with general and other necessary officers. Each battalion was to be provided with two pieces of field artillery with the necessary officers, gunners, and other persons, and the accompanying train. The Hessian sick and wounded were to be cared for by their own physicians, surgeons, and other persons appointed for that purpose under the orders of the Hessian corps commander.

The general staff was to consist of one commanding general with two *aides-de-camp* and a secretary, one infantry lieutenant general with his *aide-de-camp*, four infantry major generals with four *aides-de-camp*, one quartermaster general with his aide, two majors of brigade with their aides, one auditor general, two staff chaplains, one physician, one surgeon general, one staff wagon master, one provost with his servant, one provost sergeant, and one executioner with his servant.

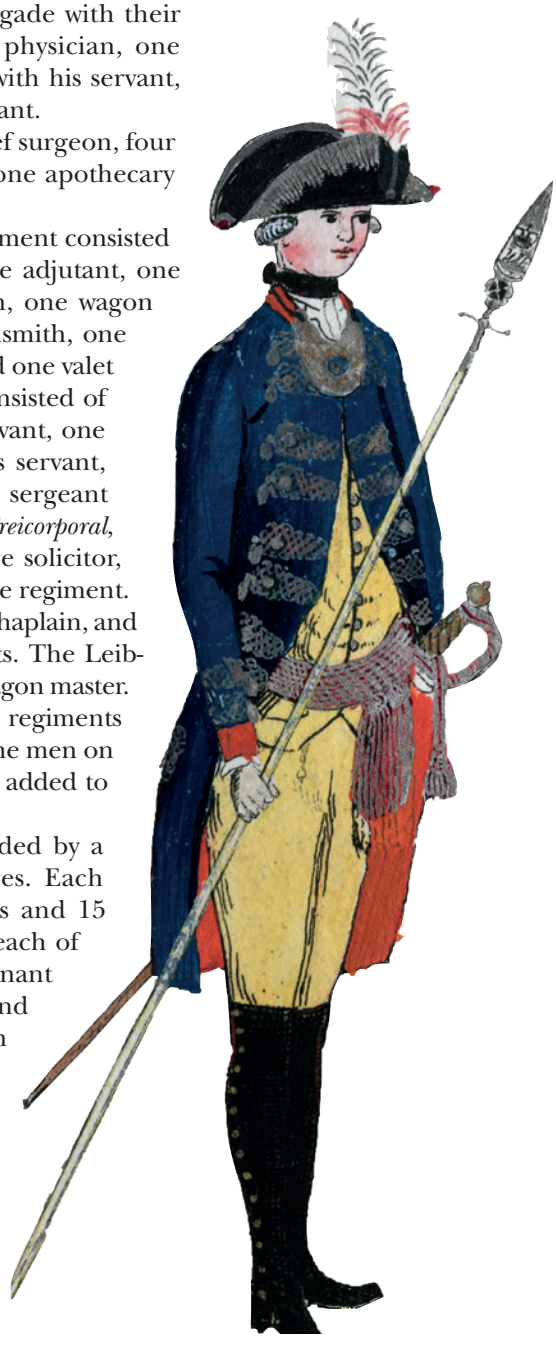
The hospital staff consisted of one physician, one chief surgeon, four surgeons, one chaplain, one hospital superintendent, one apothecary and mates, and one cook.

The staff of each musketeer, fusilier, and garrison regiment consisted of one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one major, one adjutant, one quartermaster, one auditor, one chaplain, one surgeon, one wagon master, one drum major, six oboists (*hautbois)*, one gunsmith, one provost with one servant, one valet for the pay wagon, and one valet for the medicine wagon. Each of the five companies consisted of one captain and his servant, one lieutenant and his servant, one second lieutenant and his servant, one ensign and his servant, one sergeant major, two sergeants, one quartermaster sergeant (*fourier*), one master of arms (*capitaine d'armes*), one *Freicorporal*, six corporals, one surgeon's mate, three drummers, one solicitor, and 105 privates, totaling 130 per company and 650 in the regiment. With one exception, one *auditeur* (judge advocate), one chaplain, and one wagon master were assigned to every two regiments. The Leib-Infanterie-Regiment had its own *auditeur*, chaplain, and wagon master. To bring the musketeer, fusilier, grenadier, and garrison regiments up to the authorized strength called for in the treaty, all the men on leave were recalled and four NCOs and 15 privates were added to each company.

The four grenadier battalions were to be commanded by a colonel who also commanded the *Feldjäger* companies. Each infantry regiment was ordered to transfer four NCOs and 15 trained privates to its grenadier company. The staff of each of the four battalions of grenadiers consisted of one lieutenant colonel, one quartermaster, one armorer, one provost, and one valet for the pay wagon. Each of the four companies in the battalion was composed of one captain and servant, one lieutenant and servant, one second lieutenant and servant, one ensign and servant, three sergeants, one quartermaster sergeant, one master at arms, six corporals, one surgeon's mate, one provost, two fifers, three drummers, and 105 privates, totaling 131 per company and 524 per battalion.

Each of the two original *Feldjäger* companies consisted of one captain and servant, one lieutenant

This officer of the 3. Bataillon, Regiment Garde, dating from 1786, carries the polearm eschewed by Hessian officers during the American Revolutionary War. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)



An NCO of the Musketier-Regiment von Jung-Lossberg in 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

and servant, two second lieutenants with servants, four sergeants, one quartermaster sergeant, one master at arms, , six corporals, one surgeon's mate, three hunting hornists (*cors de chasse*), and 105 *Jäger* for a total of 129 per company. The two companies shared one quartermaster, one valet for the pay and medicine wagon, and two others for the ammunition carts.

Because of the success achieved by the first two *Feldjäger* companies in the 1776 campaign, a second treaty was concluded at Cassel on December 11, 1776 whereby the two companies in America were to be augmented with an additional three foot companies and one mounted company. The new establishment of the Feldjäger Corps was as follows.

Staff personnel included one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one major (each of whom commanded a company and was included under the company numbers even though they did not serve as such but in a more senior capacity), one adjutant, one auditor, one regimental quartermaster, one regimental surgeon, one armorer, one assistant armorer, one farrier, one saddler, one wagon master, one valet for the chest, one valet for the medicines, one provost, and one provost's servant (total 13).

The mounted company included one captain, two lieutenants, two second lieutenants, two sergeants, two quartermasters, ten corporals, one surgeon's mate, three trumpeters, 150 *Jäger*, one servant for the ammunition, and five officers' servants (total 179). Each company on foot included one captain, one lieutenant, one second lieutenant, two sergeants, one quartermaster sergeant, one master at arms, ten corporals, one surgeon's mate, three hunting hornists, 150 *Jäger*, one servant for the ammunition, and three officers' servants (total 175).

In June 1777, as the new *Jäger* began to arrive in America, the new corps was formed. Together with the two foot companies already in America, which were brought up to the authorized strength of the new foot companies, these new arrivals brought the total strength of the Feldjäger Corps to 1,067. Added to it were the recently arrived *Jäger* from Ansbach-Bayreuth. The Hessen-Cassel and Ansbach-Bayreuth *Jäger* served together in the combined corps during the remainder of the American Revolutionary War.

Although the specific number of artillerymen to be furnished to service the two 3-pounder guns per battalion is not mentioned in the treaty, a numeric list of the Artillery Corps for 12,000 Hessians lists the following: one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, one major (each of whom commanded a company), six lieutenants, six second lieutenants, one adjutant, one commissary/quartermaster, one commissary's aide, four surgeons, 42 bombardiers, 194 cannoneers, 193 sub-cannoneers, nine drummers, one wagon master, two wagon valets, three clerks, and 17 officer's servants, totaling 483 officers and men. There were also 107 valets and 15 workers of various types. Organized in three companies, the artillery contingent had a total of 605 officers and men and 450 horses. To reach the required strength, 11 men were drafted from each of the five squadrons in the four dragoon regiments – a total of 220 men.

ARRIVAL IN AMERICA

The first Hessian division, commanded by General-Lieutenant Leopold Philipp Theodor von Heister, arrived at Staten Island, New

York on August 12, 1776 and consisted of the following: regiments Leib, Erbprinz, Prinz Carl, von Ditfourth, von Donop, von Lossberg, von Knyphausen, von Trümbach, von Mirbach, and Rall; grenadier battalions von Linsing, von Minnigerode, and Block; one *Jäger* company; two artillery companies; the general and hospital staffs; and the commissariat. The second division, commanded by General-Lieutenant Wilhelm von Knyphausen, arrived at New York on October 18, 1776 and consisted of the following: regiments von Wutginau, von Stein, von Wissenbach, von Huyn, and von Bünau; Grenadier-Bataillon Köhler; one *Jäger* company; and one artillery company.

To maintain the corps serving in America at its authorized strength, the initial treaty called for the necessary replacements for losses to be furnished annually. Whereas the original corps sent to America was overwhelmingly composed of native Hessians (*Einländer*), to keep his regiments at authorized strength, the Landgraf approved the enlistment of foreigners, i.e. non-Hessians (*Ausländer*).

From 1776 through 1780, all recruit transports initially sailed to Portsmouth, the main Royal Navy base in England, to join large convoys preparing to proceed to North America. Because it often happened that the convoys were slow in assembling and departing, the recruits did not arrive in America until after that year's campaign had started. To eliminate this problem, in 1781 and 1782 the recruit transports sailed directly from Germany north around Scotland to America without stopping at Portsmouth. The 1782 recruit transport included soldiers from all six of the principalities that furnished troops to the British for service in America. Fearing that a French fleet could intercept the convoy if it tried to get to New York, the convoy proceeded to Halifax, Nova Scotia. The troops disembarked and most remained there until August 6, 1783 when, together with the Garnisons-Regiment von Seitz, they sailed for Europe.

From 1777 onward, when leaving Hessen for America as part of a recruit transport, all Hessian officers, artillerymen, and *Jäger* wore the uniforms of their respective units. Infantry recruits, however, were not distributed to regiments until they arrived in America and were then assigned to regiments, at which time they were issued the uniforms of their new units. For the voyage, they were issued temporary non-regimental clothing.

EMBARKATION RETURNS

First division, Bremerlehe, April 12, 1776	8,647
Second division, Ritzebüttel, June 6, 1776	4,327
Jäger augmentation, Bremerlehe, March 26, 1777	348
1st Recruit Transport – recruits and *Jäger*, Dordrecht, April 12, 1777	513
2nd Recruit Transport – recruits and *Jäger*, Bremerlehe, May 27, 1777	604
3rd Recruit Transport – recruits and *Jäger*, Bremerlehe, December 10, 1777	398
4th Recruit Transport – recruits, Bremerlehe, April 5, 1778	283
5th Recruit Transport – recruits, Bremerlehe, May 1, 1779	960
6th Recruit Transport – recruits, Bremerlehe, June 1, 1780	932
7th Recruit Transport – recruits, Bremerlehe, April 26, 1781	937
8th Recruit Transport – recruits, Bremerlehe, June 1, 1782	1,033
Total	**18,982**

A gunner of the Feldartillerie Corps in 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

Two views of a Hessian officer's sword. Surviving officers' swords have a straight, double-edged blade with interlaced wire-wrapped grip and a handguard. Blades are marked on both sides with "Friederich IIte Landgraf zu Hessen" within an elaborately designed border. The overall length is 39¾in, with a blade length of 32½in. (Don Troiani Collection)

MAJOR ACTIONS INVOLVING HESSIANS

It should be noted that detachments of *Feldjäger* served in nearly every major action in which Hessian troops were engaged as well as in numerous smaller skirmishes. The same pertains to the artillery: detachments assigned to man the two guns assigned to each regiment and battalion served with them in all the major actions in which their units were engaged.

Participating in the British victory on **Long Island** (NY) on August 27, 1776 were the Hessian regiments Erbprinz, von Donop, von Lossberg, von Knyphausen, Rall, and von Mirbach; the grenadier battalions von Linsing, von Minnigerode, and Block; and one company of *Feldjäger*. Hessian losses were two other ranks killed and three officers and 23 other ranks wounded.

Involved in the action at **White Plains** (NY) on October 28, 1776 were the regiments Erbprinz, Rall, von Lossberg, and von Knyphausen; the grenadier battalions von Linsing and Block; and one company of *Feldjäger*.

Participating in the successful attack against **Fort Washington** (NY) on November 16, 1776 were the regiments von Wutginau, von Lossberg, von Knyphausen, Rall, von Stein, von Wissenbach, von Huyn, and von Bünau; the Grenadier-Bataillon Köhler; and the *Feldjäger*. Hessian losses were three officers, one NCO, and 48 privates killed and 12 officers, 17 NCOs, one drummer, and 245 privates wounded. Shortly after its fall, the fort was renamed Fort Knyphausen.

A British and Hessian force under Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton landed unopposed on **Rhode Island** on December 8, 1776. This force included the Hessian regiments Leib, von Wutginau, Prinz Carl, von Ditfourth, von Bünau, von Huyn, and von Wissenbach, totaling 3,165 officers and men. In May 1777 the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment and the Musketier-Regiment Prinz Carl were recalled to New York. In June 1779 the Musketier-Regiment Landgraf embarked and sailed for New York, followed by the regiments von Ditfourth, von Huyn, and von Bünau on October 25 during the British evacuation of Rhode Island.

During the night of December 25/26, 1776, General George Washington with about 2,500 officers and men with 18 field pieces crossed the Delaware River at McKonkey's Ferry from Pennsylvania to New Jersey. After marching south to **Trenton** (NJ) at 8am on December 26 the Americans surprised and defeated the Hessian garrison under Obrist Johann Gottlieb Rall, which consisted of the fusilier regiments von Knyphausen and von Lossberg and the Grenadier-Regiment Rall. A total of 918 Hessian personnel surrendered. The Americans captured six 3-pounder cannons with carriages, three ammunition wagons, as many muskets, bayonets, cartridge boxes, and hangers as there were prisoners, and 15 colors.

At the battle of **Brandywine** (PA) on September 11, 1777 the regiments Leib, von Donop, and von Mirbach, the combined battalion (see page 38), grenadier battalions von Linsing, von Minnigerode, and von Lengerke, and the *Feldjäger* participated in the defeat of General George Washington's Continental Army. The Hessian *Jäger* lost one sergeant and three other ranks killed and one officer, three sergeants, and 12 other ranks wounded. The Grenadier-Bataillon von Linsing had

two officers, one sergeant, and one other rank killed, and two other ranks wounded; the Grenadier-Bataillon von Lengerke one other rank killed; the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment one other rank killed and two wounded; and the Musketier-Regiment von Mirbach two other ranks wounded.

The Leib-Infanterie-Regiment and the *Jäger* were engaged in the battle of **Germantown** (PA) on October 4, 1777, with the Musketier-Regiment von Donop and the Grenadier Battalion von Minnigerode also present on the periphery. The Leib-Infanterie-Regiment had ten other ranks wounded and the *Jäger* one other rank killed and 13 wounded. Brigade commander General-Major Johann Daniel Stirn received a light contusion from a musket ball – the only Hessian senior officer casualty during the war.

The Musketier-Regiment von Trümbach and a recently arrived contingent of *Feldjäger* participated in this successful attack and capture of **Forts Clinton and Montgomery** (NY) on the west bank of the Hudson River on October 6, 1777. The *Jäger* suffered three other ranks killed and 11 wounded while the Musketier-Regiment von Trümbach only had two other ranks missing.

The Musketier-Regiment von Mirbach, the grenadier battalions von Linsing, von Minnigerode, and von Lengerke, and the Feldjäger Corps were involved in the assault on **Fort Mercer** (Redbank, NJ) on October 22, 1777. In terms of numbers killed (82) and wounded (228), this unsuccessful assault was the worst Hessian defeat of the war.

The Leib-Infanterie-Regiment, the Musketier-Regiment von Donop, the Wöllwarth Brigade (see page 38), the grenadier battalions von Linsing, von Minnigerode, and von Lengerke, and the Feldjäger Corps were present at the battle of **Monmouth Court House** (NJ) on June 28, 1778, but were minimally engaged. Hessian losses were one killed (*Jäger*), 11 other ranks died from fatigue, and 11 other ranks wounded. The march across New Jersey saw the first large-scale desertions from the Hessian forces, totaling 236. This figure included 162 *Einländer* (six NCOs, one surgeon's mate, six musicians, and 149 other ranks) and 74 *Ausländer* (three NCOs, one surgeon's mate, two musicians, and 68 other ranks).

During the battle of **Rhode Island** on August 29, 1778, the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment, the Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth, and the garrison regiments von Huyn and von Bünau assisted in repulsing an attack by the Americans under Major General John Sullivan. Hessian losses were one officer and six other ranks killed, three officers, seven sergeants, and 65 other ranks wounded, and one sergeant and six other ranks missing.

The Grenadier-Regiment "vacant von Wöllwarth" and the Garnisons-Regiment von Wissenbach participated in the successful **capture of Savannah** (GA) on December 29, 1778. The Grenadier-Regiment von Wöllwarth had two other ranks wounded. (On September 24, 1778, General-Major Carl Levin von Trümbach had been promoted to *General-Lieutenant* and the next day was appointed *Chef* of the vacant Grenadier-Regiment von Wöllwarth. This promotion and appointment were announced at New York on January 28, 1779, but did not reach the regiment in Savannah, Georgia, until June of that year.)

The Musketier-Regiment Prinz Carl took part in the **Chesapeake Raid**, an expedition to Virginia under Major-General Edward Mathew and Commodore George Collier, April 28–May 30, 1779. The raid was

A drummer of the Musketier-Regiment von Jung-Lossberg in 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

A drummer of the Feldartillerie Corps in 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

intended to destroy supplies, ships, and facilities of economic and military value to the Rebels.

Because of its brave conduct in repulsing an American attack at **Stono Ferry** (SC) on June 20, 1779, the Grenadier-Regiment von Trümbach, which had lost its colors at Trenton, was restored to Landgraf Friedrich's favor and granted new colors, which it received after their return to Hessen. During the battle at Trenton, the regiment suffered the loss of two sergeants and two other ranks killed, one major, two lieutenants, four sergeants, one drummer, and 28 other ranks wounded, and one missing.

The Musketier-Regiment Landgraf took part in Major-General William **Tryon's raids** on New Haven, Fairfield, and Norwalk, Connecticut, July 5–17, 1779. These raids were intended to destroy Rebel magazines, ships, and other public and private property.

The **siege of Savannah** (GA) commenced on September 16, 1779 and ended on October 20, 1779. During the successful repulse of a combined American and French force, the Grenadier-Regiment von Trümbach had four wounded while the Garnisons-Regiment von Wissenbach lost five killed, three wounded, and two deserted.

All four Hessian grenadier battalions – von Linsing, von Lengerke, Graff, and vacant von Minnigerode – plus the Garnisons-Regiment von Huyn and a detachment of 250 *Feldjäger* participated in the entire **siege of Charleston** (SC), March 29–May 12, 1780; the Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth reinforced them on April 23. During the siege, the *Jäger* lost seven other ranks killed and 14 other ranks wounded; the Grenadier-Bataillon von Linsing, two other ranks killed and seven wounded; the Grenadier-Bataillon von Lengerke, one other rank killed and 15 wounded; the Grenadier-Bataillon vacant von Minnigerode, three other ranks killed and 18 other ranks wounded; the Grenadier-Bataillon Graff, two other ranks killed and two lieutenants and eight other ranks wounded; and the Garnisons-Regiment von Huyn, five other ranks wounded. (Obrist von Minnigerode died at New York on October 16, 1779; the grenadier battalion he had commanded remained vacant until the Landgraf appointed a new commander.)

Hessian troops participated in the battle of **Connecticut Farms** (NJ) on June 7, 1780, after Knyphausen crossed from New York to New Jersey with a large force including the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment, the musketeer regiments Landgraf, von Bose, and von Donop, the Garnisons-Regiment von Bünau, and the Feldjäger Corps. According to the commander, the purposes of the incursion were: to trap Brigadier General William Maxwell's New Jersey Brigade, which was posted in and around Elizabethtown; to take possession of Short Hills, an advantageous position which commanded Chatham and the neighborhood; to encourage the desertion of troops from Washington's Continental Army, which was cantoned in and around Morristown; and then to act against Washington as circumstances rendered necessary. None of these goals was accomplished and following the battle of **Springfield** (NJ) on June 23, Knyphausen's force retreated to Staten Island. During this unsuccessful expedition the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment lost one other rank killed and one officer, one drummer, and 17 other ranks wounded; the Musketier-Regiment Landgraf, one other rank killed, one NCO, one drummer, and eight other ranks wounded, and one other rank missing; the Garnisons-Regiment von Bünau, one sergeant and one other rank

missing; the Musketier-Regiment von Bose, one other rank killed, five other ranks wounded, and two other ranks missing; the Musketier-Regiment von Donop, one sergeant and two other ranks wounded; the *Jäger*, two sergeants and two other ranks killed, four officers, one musician, and 44 other ranks wounded, and two sergeants, one musician, and two other ranks missing; and the artillery, two drummers wounded and five sergeants missing.

The Musketier-Regiment von Bose and a small detachment of Hessian and Ansbach-Bayreuth *Jäger* fought in the battle of **Guilford Court House** (NC) on March 15, 1781. The Musketier-Regiment von Bose lost three sergeants and seven other ranks killed, two captains, two lieutenants, one ensign, six sergeants, three drummers, and 53 other ranks wounded, and one sergeant and two other ranks missing. Of the *Jäger*, four other ranks were killed, three other ranks were wounded, and one other rank was missing. One of the captains and the ensign subsequently died of their wounds.

At **Green Springs** (VA) on July 6, 1781, two sergeants and three other ranks of the Musketier-Regiment von Bose were wounded in a skirmish against an American force under Major General the Marquis de Lafayette and Brigadier General Anthony Wayne.

Two Hessian musketeer regiments, Erbprinz (484) and von Bose (349), and a combined detachment of Hessian and Ansbach-Bayreuth *Jäger* (74) fought in the **siege of Yorktown** from September 29, 1781, and entered captivity at its conclusion on October 19. On the morning of October 14 the Musketier-Regiment Erbprinz was ordered to furnish one subaltern, three sergeants, and 56 other ranks to man the advanced redoubts. The Musketier-Regiment von Bose was to provide one subaltern, three sergeants, and 34 other ranks for the same purpose. That night the French and Americans stormed and captured the two redoubts (known as Nos 9 and 10) on the left wing of the British lines. One ensign, one NCO, and 9 other ranks of the Musketier-Regiment von Bose were taken prisoner in the smaller redoubt and Lieutenant Wilhelm von Andresohn of the Musketier-Regiment Erbprinz, while defending himself with his sword while on the walls of the other redoubt, was wounded by a number of bayonet thrusts and forced to surrender. For his meritorious conduct, the Landgraf awarded von Andresohn the *Pour la vertu militaire*.

During the siege, the Musketier-Regiment von Bose lost one captain, four sergeants, and 13 other ranks killed, one ensign, four sergeants, three drummers, and 32 other ranks wounded, and one sergeant and ten other ranks missing, totaling 69. Musketier-Regiment Erbprinz lost two sergeants, two drummers, and 19 other ranks killed, seven sergeants, one drummer, and 49 other ranks wounded, and two sergeants and 14 other ranks missing, totaling 96. Apparently there were no *Jäger* casualties.

At the surrender on October 19, 1781, Hessian personnel went into captivity. For the Musketier-Regiment von Bose, two majors, five lieutenants, two ensigns, one adjutant, one quartermaster, one surgeon, three surgeon's mates, 46 sergeants, 16 musicians, and 271 other ranks were taken prisoner. For the Musketier-Regiment Erbprinz, one lieutenant colonel, one major, five captains, five lieutenants, four ensigns, one chaplain, one quartermaster, four surgeon's mates, 19 sergeants, 11 musicians, and 425 other ranks entered captivity. For the combined detachment of Hessian and Ansbach *Feldjäger*, one captain,

An NCO of the Musketier-Regiment von Bose in 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

Officers of the 2. Bataillon (above) and 3. Bataillon (below), Regiment Garde, in 1776. The silver Brandenburgs on the coat were of a different pattern for the two battalions. Only one company of each battalion served in North America. See page 15. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

three lieutenants, one surgeon's mate, one *Waldhornist*, and 68 other ranks were taken prisoner. One field-grade officer was to remain with the troops of each principality, one captain with each 200 men, and a subaltern with every 50 men. Major Friedrich Henrich Scheer of the Musketier-Regiment von Bose was the field-grade officer chosen to remain with the Hessian prisoners.

UNIFORMS

As was the case with many German principalities, the Hessians followed the Prussian style of uniforms. The infantry coats were dark blue. Four pairs of plain buttons were arranged on each side of the coat front (three pairs of which were on each lapel of those regiments that had them), two on each sleeve above the cuff, and one on each pocket flap. Some musketeer regiments and the grenadier regiment had Brandenburgs or tape around all the buttons on their coats. The Prinz Carl and von Mirbach regiments and the Feldartillerie Corps only had Brandenburgs on the pair of buttons below each lapel, on each sleeve, and above each cuff. These two infantry regiments also had lace or tape edging on the lapels, cuffs, and *pattes* (flaps above the cuffs).

The lining of the coats of the Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg and the Garnisons-Regiment von Stein was orange, that of the Füsilier-Regiment Erbprinz was pink, and that of the Feldjäger, Feldartillerie, and Garnisons-Regiment von Bünau was crimson. The coat lining of all other regiments and the two grenadier companies of the Regiment Garde was red. The coats of all musketeer, fusilier, grenadier, and artillery privates had a strap on the left shoulder to hold the cartridge-box belt in place.

Officers' stocks of the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment and the Prinz Carl, von Donop, von Trümbach, von Wutginau, von Mirbach, Rall, von Wissenbach, von Bünau, von Stein, and von Huyn regiments were white; all other ranks' stocks were red. The stocks of both officers and other ranks of the Regiment Garde, Erbprinz, von Ditfourth, von Lossberg, von Knyphausen, Feldjäger, Feldartillerie, engineers, and surgeons were black.

Except for new stockings and stocks, which were issued every year, Hessian soldiers were issued new uniforms every two years. The soldiers were to use their old coats to make caps and gloves. The metal parts of grenadier and fusilier caps and leather items were issued only when the old ones wore out.

After Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton's expeditionary force returned to New York from Charleston, South Carolina, on June 17, 1780, he expressed his wish to Knyphausen that the battalions of the Hessian grenadier brigade might have white plumes like the British, as this was a distinguishing token in battle or in the army as a whole. Knyphausen acquiesced and ordered the grenadier company commanders to furnish and maintain the plumes. He excepted the two grenadier companies from the Regiment Garde, who wore red and white feathers according to regulation, whereas the ones furnished by the company commanders were completely white. As British grenadiers also received hats to which white feathers were attached in addition to their bearskin caps, it seems likely that the Hessian grenadiers also wore hats at least part of the time.

In his memoirs, Continental Major General William Heath wrote that at the battle of Brandywine, it was reported that the Hessian grenadiers halted after crossing the ford, changed their hats for brass-fronted caps, and then resumed their advance. This lends credence to the idea that the Hessian grenadiers wore both caps and hats and that the feathers were worn on the hats. The pompon on grenadier NCOs' caps was red and white.

Soldiers' weapons and personal equipment

Hessian infantry carried muskets with bayonets manufactured in the Pistor weapons factory in Schmalkalden, a Hessian exclave in Thuringia. The Landgraf insisted that his troops carry only weapons made in Hessen. At the review to be held when the regiments returned to Hessen, only Hessian firearms would be passed. Any foreign firearms found would be refused and the missing Hessian ones would be charged to the companies' accounts.

The Landgraf's order appears to have been followed with one major but short-lived exception. When the Musketier-Regiment von Bose sailed south from New York in October 1780 as part of an expedition against Virginia commanded by Major-General Alexander Leslie, the regimental gunsmith had to be left behind owing to sickness. Because of his absence, the serviceability of the regiment's muskets could not be maintained or repaired. At Wilmington, North Carolina following the battle of Guilford Court House (March 15, 1781), Major Johann Christian duBuy, the commander of the Musketier-Regiment von Bose, asked Lord Cornwallis if the Hessian weapons could be replaced with British firelocks. Cornwallis immediately directed that the regiment be issued new Tower muskets just arrived from England to arm Loyalist militiamen. Newly armed, the regiment accompanied Cornwallis north to Yorktown where, on October 19, 1781, their British firelocks were surrendered to the American and French forces.

Cartridge boxes were black leather with an oval brass plate in the center. Grenadiers' cartridge boxes also had a brass flaming grenade in each of the four corners.

Officers' uniforms, weapons, and equipment

Each general officer wore the uniform of the regiment of which he was *Chef* or *Commandeur*. They were only distinguished from other officers by a narrow white feathered edging around the top of the hat. All officers wore silver-and-red sashes and sword knots. Regimental quartermasters, surgeons, and *auditeurs* did not have sword knots. Officers were required to wear yellow leather gloves with stiff cuffs when in service. They were also required to have a blue cloth overcoat. The Landgraf ordered the officers not to take their spontoons with them to America, but to deposit them in the arsenals for safekeeping until the troops' return home.

Infantry generals, staff officers, and adjutants were allowed one or two horses as they chose. Saddle cloths were the same color as the regimental facings trimmed with two rows of lace except those of the adjutants, which had only one row. The lace was probably gold or silver depending on the color of the regimental buttons and lace.

At a meeting of the Hessian generals and senior officers held at the Hessian headquarters on Staten Island on August 16, 1776, Heister

A Hessian infantry hanger. Brass-hilted with the "F L" cypher on the blade. The color of the fringe on a soldier's white sword knot identified the company to which he belonged in a regiment. The grenadiers' fringe was black, the *Leibcompagnie*'s white, the *Obrist*'s light red, the *Obristlieutenant*'s light blue, the *Major*'s orange, and the fifth company's green. The sword knots of NCOs, regimental drummers, and *hautbois* were white with a horizontal red line across the top, middle, and bottom. (Don Troiani Collection)

reported that the British generals had informed him that the Rebels tended to shoot at the officers, who were easily distinguished from the privates by their uniforms and hats. Because of the great losses in officers that the British had suffered, King George III had commanded that all officers dress like the privates and wear nothing more to mark their difference in rank than the sword knot. The British generals advised that the Hessians do likewise and lay aside their gorgets, lace, and tassels on their hats together with the Brandenburgs, borderings, and aiguillettes on the uniform coats. The Hessian officers agreed to do so.

When this change was reported to the Landgraf, he acquiesced but wished that he had been consulted first. He ordered that no officer wear his hat without the cordon or put aside his gorget although in action it could be buttoned under the vest. Friedrich II added that, in spite of the changes, the officers would still be easily distinguished, especially in the Musketier-Regiment von Wutginau and the grenadier companies of the Regiment Garde as they were when they had the Brandenburgs. Also, the officers in the grenadier battalions and fusilier regiments were always different from the men, the former wearing hats and the latter caps. The Landgraf hoped that the generals would not remove the white feathers from their hats, but continue wearing them on their hats. In response to the Landgraf's orders, on December 5, 1776 Heister ordered that "the officers must at once restore the gold and silver lace to their uniforms, and have their hats trimmed in the Hessian fashion" (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, Bestand 4h, Nr. 3098).

Brass finial from a Hessian color. The pikes were either white or black with a brass spearhead and nail and silver-and-red cords and tassels. (Don Troiani Collection)

The wearing of boots by officers was restricted. Majors and adjutants were always to wear boots but staff (field-grade) officers were only allowed to wear them on parade. Other officers had to wear gaiters on parade, but were permitted to wear boots when on the march. In February 1777 officers were ordered not to wear their sashes when off-duty and never to wear them over their coats. In January 1779 the Landgraf reiterated his unalterable instruction and wish that every Hessian officer should not wear any other uniform than the regulation one belonging to the regiment or corps to which he was attached. Unfortunately, the uniform proved to be very uncomfortable, particularly in the South during the summer months. Writing from Charleston, South Carolina on July 1, 1781, a Hessian officer of the Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth noted that their arms and clothing were not made for this climate and that the British, instead of coats, wore camisoles and long linen breeches instead of gaiters and stockings.

Hessen-Cassel colors and drums

Following the Prussian practice, each Hessian musketeer and fusilier company carried a color. Only the flank-grenadier companies did not carry colors. With the exception of the flank-grenadier company, the other five grenadier companies of the Grenadier Regiment Rall did carry colors, which they surrendered at Trenton in December 1776.

The design of all Hessian infantry regiments' flags was identical. The field and four corner wedges of the *Leibcompagnie* color were always white. The fields of the flags of the other five companies in a regiment were not white but usually the color of the regiment's coat facings. The one exception was the design of the company flags of the Garnisons-Regiment von Wissenbach: as its coat facings were white, the field and

corner wedges were also white. In the center of every color there was a blue cartouche bearing a crowned red-and-white-striped lion rampant, with sword, upon a patch of green. Above the cartouche, a white scroll bore the motto 'NESCIT PERICULA' (fearless of danger) in gold letters. The whole was surmounted by a gold crown, with a red cap of maintenance. A wreath of gold-and-green or silver-and-green laurel leaves surrounded the cartouche. In each corner the cypher "F L" appeared in gold or silver, with a small crown above the cypher and a gold-and-green or silver-and-green wreath about the cypher.

Drums were brass embossed with the Hessian lion. The hoops were painted with alternating wide diagonal stripes from upper right to lower left, with each regiment, battalion, or corps having its own combination of colors.

THE REGIMENTS

The regimental and grenadier battalion designations given in the headings below are those held at the beginning of the American Revolutionary War, with subsequent changes of unit designation noted.

Regiment Garde

Only the flank-grenadier company of the 2. Bataillon and the grenadier company of the 3. Bataillon served in North America, in the Grenadier-Bataillon von Linsing (see page 35). **Uniform generalities:** brick-red (*Ziegelroth*) lining, collar, and cuffs. Yellow waistcoat and breeches. White buttons. **Officers:** hat with plain silver loop holding black cockade. Silver Brandenburgs (different patterns for the two battalions). **NCOs:** white-metal cap with yellow bag and silver cords (2. Bataillon) or red bag and silver cords (3. Bataillon) and white pompon with red center. White sword knot with a horizontal red line across the top, middle, and bottom. **Grenadiers:** white-metal cap with red bag, white cords, and white pompon. White sword knot with black fringe (2. Bataillon) or white fringe and black top (3. Bataillon). See Plates E1 and E2.

Flank-grenadier of the 2. Bataillon (above) and grenadier of the 3. Bataillon (below), Regiment Garde, in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

Leib-Infanterie-Regiment

Raised 1700. *Chefs*: Landgraf Friedrich II (1760); Erbprinz Wilhelm (1783). Became the Musketier-Regiment Erbprinz in 1783. **Major actions:** White Plains; Brandywine; Germantown; Monmouth Court House; Connecticut Farms and Springfield. **Uniform generalities:** yellow collar, lapels, and cuffs. Yellow waistcoat and breeches. White buttons. **Officers:** hat with wide silver scalloped edging; black cockade held with silver loop; silver tassels with red center. Silver Brandenburgs and buttons on coat. See Plate D2. **NCOs:** hat with narrow silver edging; pompon and tassels white with red center. Silver lace on coat same as officers' but none on pocket flap. See Plate D2. **Musketeers:** hat with narrow white edging and button; yellow pompon. White coat lace. **Grenadiers:** cap with white-metal plate and crown; yellow bag with white cloth cords; yellow pompon. White coat lace. **Musicians:** purple facings; white lace with a purple stripe. **Drum hoops:** purple/white. **Company colors:** purple field with yellow corner wedges. Silver cyphers and silver-and-green laurel wreaths. White pike. White flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or purple (company colors).

Officer, NCO, grenadier, and musketeer of the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment (above) and the Füsilier-Regiment Erbprinz (below) in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

Füsilier-Regiment Erbprinz

Raised 1680. *Chefs*: Erbprinz Wilhelm (1760); Prinz Friedrich (1783). Became a *Musketier-Regiment* in 1780 and was renamed Prinz Friedrich in 1783. **Major actions:** Long Island; Fort Washington; Yorktown. **Uniform generalities:** pink lining, collar, cuffs, and lapels. White waistcoat and

breeches. White buttons. See Plate C3. **Officers:** hat with wide silver scalloped edging; black cockade held with silver loop; silver tassels with red center. Silver aiguillette. No Brandenburgs or lace on coat. **NCOs:** silver lace edging on cuffs and *pattes*. **Fusiliers:** cap with white-metal plate, crown, and top; pink bag with white-metal cords. **Grenadiers:** cap with white-metal plate and crown; pink bag with white cloth cords; pink pompon. **Musicians:** white lace with a red stripe. **Drum hoops:** crimson/white with narrow blue stripe between. **Company colors:** crimson field with blue corner wedges. Silver cyphers and silver-and-green laurel wreaths. Black pike. Black flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or crimson (company colors).

Musketier-Regiment Prinz Carl

Raised 1702. *Chef*: Prinz Carl. **Major actions:** White Plains; Chesapeake Raid. **Uniform generalities:** Poppy-red (*ponceauroth*) cuffs and lapels; no collar. White waistcoat and breeches. Yellow buttons. **Officers:** hat with narrow gold edging; no cockade; gold button; silver tassels with red center. Lapels, cuffs, and *pattes* edged with embroidered gold lace. Gold Brandenburgs: two below each lapel, two on each pocket flap, and one in small of back on each side. **NCOs:** hat with narrow gold edging; gold button; pompon and tassels white with red center. Gold lace on lapels, cuffs, and *pattes*. **Musketeers:** hat with narrow white edging; white button; blue pompon and tassels. White lace on lapels, cuffs, and *pattes*. **Grenadiers:** cap with brass plate and crown; blue bag with white cloth cords; blue pompon. Coat lace as per musketeers. **Musicians:** yellow lace with a red stripe. **Drum hoops:** red/white. **Company colors:** green field with dark-green corner wedges. Gold cyphers and gold-and-green laurel wreaths. Black pike. Black flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or yellow (company colors).

Officer, NCO, grenadier, and musketeer of the Musketier-Regiment Prinz Carl in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

Officer, NCO, grenadier, and musketeer of the Musketier-Regiment von Wutginau in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

Musketier-Regiment von Wutginau

Raised 1688. *Chefs*: General der Infanterie Heinrich Wilhelm von Wutginau (1760); Landgraf Friedrich II (1776). Renamed Landgraf in 1776 and became the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment in 1783. **Major actions:** Fort Washington; Rhode Island; Tryon's Raid; Connecticut Farms and Springfield. **Uniform generalities:** poppy-red (*Ponceauroth*) collar and cuffs; no lapels. Straw-colored (*Paille*) waistcoat and breeches. Yellow buttons: eight on each side of the coat front set in pairs, two on each pocket flap, and two on each sleeve. **Officers:** hat with narrow gold edging; no cockade; gold button; silver tassels with red center. Gold Brandenburgs and buttons on coat. **NCOs:** hat with narrow gold edging; no cockade; gold button; pompon and tassels white with red centers. Gold lace on coat. **Musketeers:** hat bound with white tape; yellow button; pompon and tassels white with yellow center. White coat lace with two yellow stripes. See Plate C1. **Grenadiers:** cap with brass plate and crown; red bag with white cords; white pompon with yellow center. Coat lace as per musketeers. **Musicians:** yellow lace with a red stripe. **Drum hoops:** red/white. **Company colors:** red field and corner wedges. Gold cyphers and gold-and-green laurel wreaths. Black pike. Black flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or red (company colors).

Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth

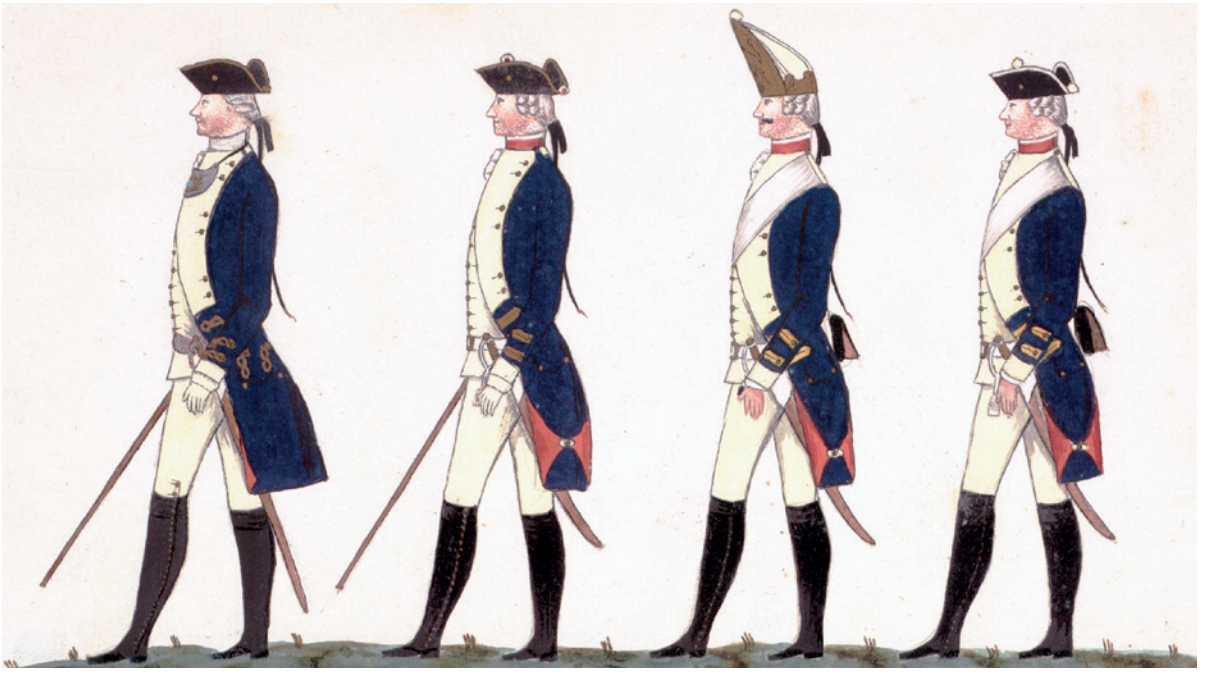
Raised 1702. *Chef*: General-Major Wilhelm Maximilian August von Ditfourth. Became a *Musketier-Regiment* in 1782. **Major actions:** White Plains; Rhode Island; Charleston (reinforcement). **Uniform generalities:** sulfur-yellow (*Schwefelgelb*) collar, cuffs, and lapels. White waistcoat and breeches. White buttons. **Officers:** hat with wide silver scalloped edging; black cockade held by silver loop; silver tassels with red center. Silver aiguillette. No Brandenburgs or lace on coat. **NCOs:**

Officer, NCO, grenadier, and fusilier of the Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

silver lace edging to cuffs and *pattes*. **Fusiliers:** cap with white-metal plate, crown, and top; yellow bag with white-metal cords. See Plate C2. **Grenadiers:** cap with white-metal plate and crown; yellow bag with white cloth cords; yellow pompon. **Musicians:** white lace with a red stripe. **Drum hoops:** medium blue/yellow. **Company colors:** yellow field with white corner wedges. Silver cyphers and silver-and-green laurel wreaths. Black pike. Black flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or dark blue (company colors).

Musketier-Regiment von Donop

Raised 1687. *Chef*: General-Major Wilhelm Heinrich August von Donop. **Major actions:** Long Island; Fort Washington; Brandywine; Germantown; Monmouth Court House; Connecticut Farms and Springfield. **Uniform generalities:** *paille* collar, cuffs, and lapels. *Paille* waistcoat and breeches. Yellow buttons. **Officers:** hat with narrow gold edging; no cockade; gold button; silver tassels with red center. Gold Brandenburgs: two below each lapel and two on each pocket flap. **NCOs:** hat with gold lace edging; gold button; pompon and tassels white with red center. Gold lace: two below each lapel and two on each sleeve above the cuff. **Musketeers:** hat with white edging; yellow button; white pompon and tassels. Yellow lace arranged same as for NCOs. **Grenadiers:** cap with brass plate and crown; *paille* bag with yellow cloth cords; white pompon. Coat lace as per musketeers. **Musicians:** yellow lace worked with red. **Drum hoops:** blue/buff. **Company colors:** *paille* field with *paille* corner wedges. Gold cyphers and gold-and-green laurel wreaths. Black pike. Black flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or red (company colors).



Officer, NCO, grenadier, and musketeer of the Musketier-Regiment von Donop (above) and the Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg (below) in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

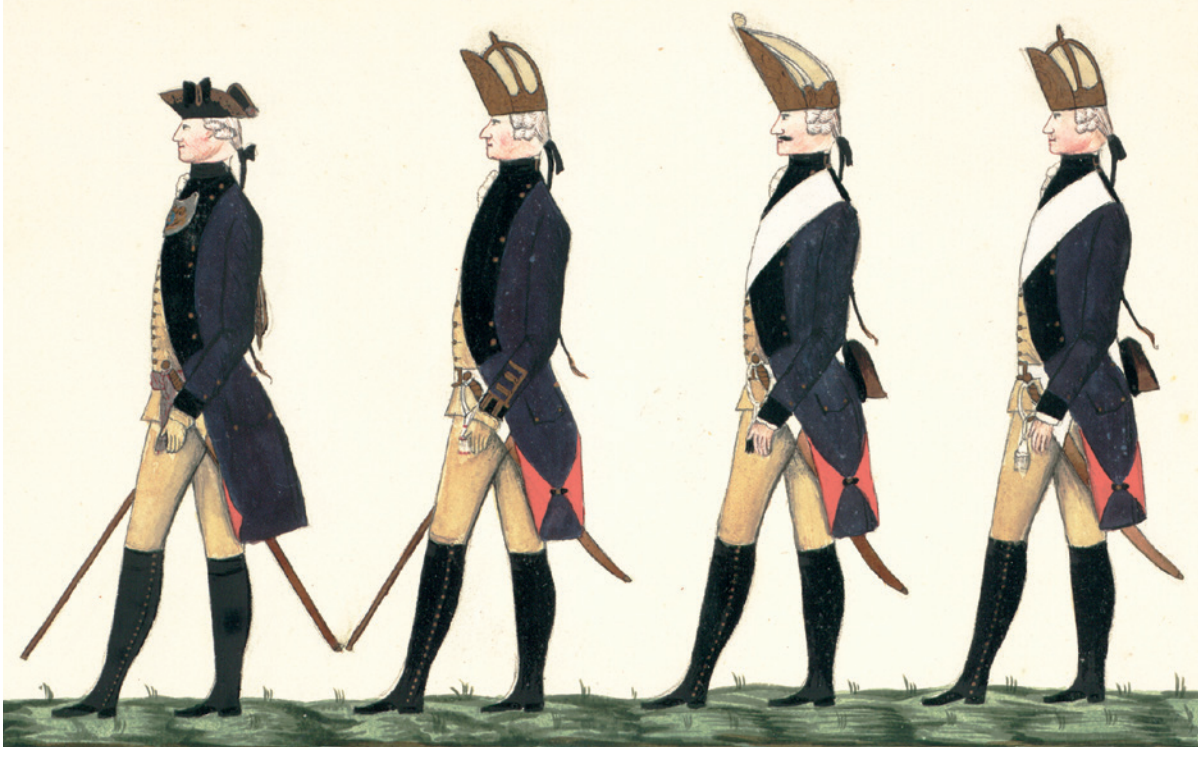
Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg

Raised 1683. *Chef*: General-Major Heinrich August von Lossberg. Renamed von Alt-Lossberg in 1780 and became a *Musketier-Regiment* in 1782. **Major actions:** Long Island; White Plains; Fort Washington; Trenton; Brandywine (partial); Monmouth Court House (partial). **Uniform generalities:** orange coat lining, collar, cuffs, and lapels. White waistcoat and breeches. Yellow buttons. **Officers:** hat with wide gold

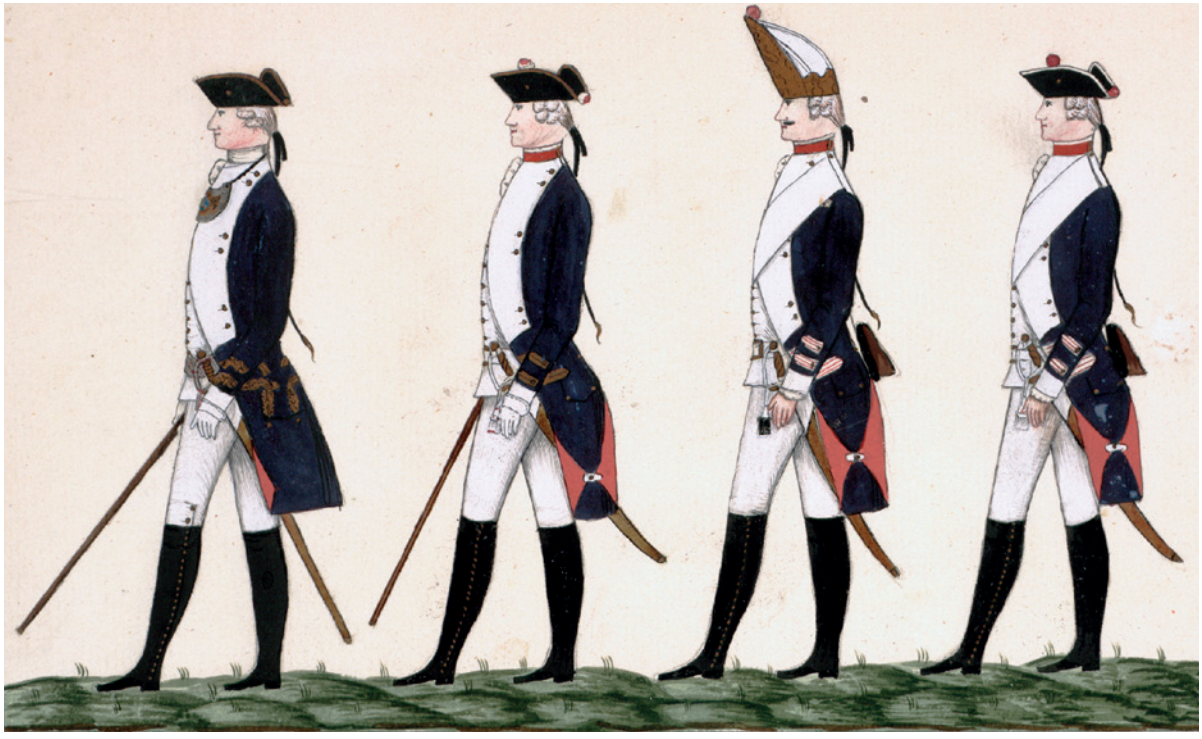
scalloped edging; black cockade held with a gold loop; silver tassels with red center. Gold aiguillette. **NCOs:** plain gold lace edging on cuffs and *pattes*. **Fusiliers:** cap with brass plate, crown, and top; black oilcloth bag with brass cords. See Plate B2. **Grenadiers:** cap with brass plate and crown; orange bag with white cloth cords; orange pompon. **Musicians:** yellow lace worked with orange and black. See Plate D3. **Drum hoops:** blue/orange. **Company colors:** orange field with olive-green corner wedges. Gold cyphers and gold-and-green laurel wreaths. White pike. White flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or dark blue (company colors).

Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen

Raised 1684. *Chef*: General-Major Wilhelm von Knyphausen. **Major actions:** Long Island; White Plains; Fort Washington; Trenton; Brandywine (partial); Monmouth Court House (partial). **Uniform generalities:** black velvet collar, cuffs, and lapels. *Paille* waistcoat and breeches. Yellow buttons. **Officers:** hat with wide gold scalloped edging; black cockade held with a gold loop; silver tassel with red center. Gold aiguillette. See Plate A2. **NCOs:** gold lace on cuffs and *pattes*. **Fusiliers:** cap with brass plate, crown, and top; *paille* bag with brass cords. See Plate B1. **Grenadiers:** cap with brass plate and crown; *paille* bag with white cloth cords; white pompon. **Musicians:** yellow lace worked with black. **Drum hoops:** black/buff with narrow black stripe in middle. **Company colors:** black field with *paille* corner wedges. Gold cyphers and gold-and-green laurel wreaths. White pike. White flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or red (company colors).



Officer, NCO, grenadier, and fusilier of the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)



Officer, NCO, grenadier, and musketeer of the Musketier-Regiment von Trümbach in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

Musketier-Regiment von Trümbach

Raised 1701. *Chefs*: General-Major Carl Levin von Trümbach (1775); General-Major Carl Ernst Johann von Bose (1778). Renamed von Bose in 1778. **Major actions:** Forts Clinton and Montgomery; Connecticut Farms and Springfield; Guilford Court House; Green Springs; Yorktown. **Uniform generalities:** white collar, cuffs, and lapels. White waistcoat and breeches. Yellow buttons. **Officers:** hat with narrow gold edging; no cockade; gold button; silver tassels with red center. Gold Brandenburgs: two below each lapel, two on each sleeve above the cuff, two on each pocket flap, one in small of back on each side. See Plate D1. **NCOs:** hat with narrow gold edging; gold button; pompon and tassels white with red center. Gold lace: two below each lapel and two on each sleeve above the cuff. **Musketeers:** hat with yellow button and bound with white tape; crimson pompon and tassels. White coat lace with three narrow red stripes. **Grenadiers:** cap with brass plate and crown; white bag with alternating red and white cloth cords; red pompon. Coat lace as per musketeers. **Musicians:** yellow lace with a red stripe. **Drum hoops:** red/white with narrow blue stripe in middle. **Company colors:** dark-blue field with white corner wedges. Gold cyphers and gold-and-green laurel wreaths. Black pike. Black flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or red (company colors).

Musketier-Regiment von Mirbach

Raised 1745. *Chefs*: Obrist Werner von Mirbach (1770); General-Major Friedrich Wilhelm von Lossberg (1780). Renamed von Jung-Lossberg in 1780. **Major actions:** Long Island; White Plains; Fort Washington; Brandywine; Fort Mercer. **Uniform generalities:** *ponceauroth* cuffs

Officer, NCO, grenadier, and musketeer of the Musketier-Regiment von Mirbach in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

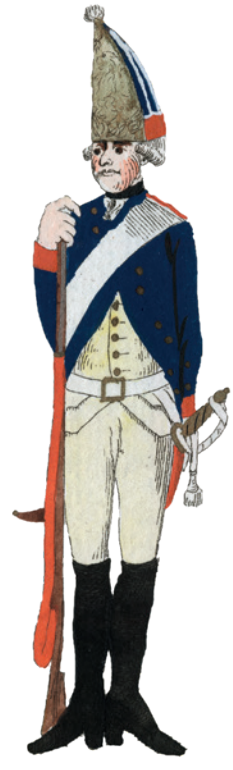
and lapels; no collar. White waistcoat and breeches. White buttons. **Officers:** hat with narrow silver edging; no cockade; silver button; silver tassels with red center. Lapels, cuffs, and *pattes* edged with embroidered silver lace. Silver Brandenburgs: two below each lapel and two on each pocket flap. See Plate A3. **NCOs:** hat with narrow silver edging; silver button; pompon and tassels white with red center. Silver lace on lapels, cuffs, and *pattes*. **Musketeers:** hat with narrow white tape; white button; blue pompon and tassels. White tape on lapels, cuffs, and *pattes*. **Grenadiers:** cap with white-metal plate and crown; blue bag with white cloth cords; blue pompon. Coat lace as per musketeers. **Musicians:** white lace with a red stripe. **Drum hoops:** red/blue. **Company colors:** red field with red corner wedges. Silver cyphers and silver-and-green laurel wreaths. Black pike. Black flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or red (company colors).

Grenadier-Regiment Rall

Raised 1703. *Chefs*: Obrist Johann Gottlieb Rall (1771); Obrist Wolfgang Friedrich von Wöllwarth (1777); General-Lieutenant Carl Levin von Trümbach (1778); General-Lieutenant Louis Marquis d'Angelelli (1779). Renamed von Wöllwarth in 1777, von Trümbach in 1778, and d'Angelelli in 1779. **Major actions:** Long Island; White Plains; Fort Washington; Trenton; Brandywine (partial); Monmouth Court House (partial); battle of Savannah; Stono Ferry; siege of Savannah. **Uniform generalities:** *ponceauroth* collar and cuffs; no lapels. *Paille* waistcoat and breeches. Yellow buttons: eight on each side of the coat front set in pairs, two on each sleeve. **Officers:** hat

RIGHT
Officer and grenadier of the Grenadier-Regiment Rall in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

FAR RIGHT
A grenadier of the Land-Grenadier Regiment (earlier named the Grenadier-Regiment Rall) in 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)



bound with narrow gold edging; gold button; silver-and-red tassels. Gold Brandenburgs arranged as follows: eight on each side of the coat front set in pairs, two horizontally on each sleeve above the cuff and two vertically on the rear pocket flap. **NCOs:** grenadier cap with red-and-white pompon. See Plate B3. **Grenadiers:** cap with brass plate featuring a lion holding the initials "F L" above war armatures; grenade with four flames on the red crown bound with white tape; blue bag with white cloth cords; white pompon. Plain white lace on coat. **Musicians:** yellow lace with a red stripe. **Drum hoops:** red/blue. **Company colors:** medium-blue field with red corner wedges. Gold cyphers and gold-and-green laurel wreaths. Black pike. Black flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or dark blue (company colors).

Garnisons-Regiment von Stein

Raised 1684. *Chefs*: General-Major Johann Ludwig Ferdinand von Stein (1763); Obrist Franz Carl Erdmann von Seitz (1778); Obrist Friedrich von Porbeck (1783). Renamed von Seitz in 1778 and von Porbeck in 1783. **Major actions:** Fort Washington. **Uniform generalities:** orange lining, collar, and cuffs; no lapels. White waistcoat and breeches. White buttons. **Officers:** hat bound with narrow silver edging; silver button; silver-and-red tassels. **NCOs:** narrow horizontal silver edging along top of orange cuff and side and top of *patte*, within which were two vertical white buttons. Black hat bound with narrow silver edging and white pompon and tassels with red centers. **Musketeers:** hat with no tape edging; white button; orange pompon and tassels. **Grenadiers:** cap with white-metal plate and crown; blue bag with white cords; white pompon.

(continued on page 33)

SENIOR COMMANDERS

1: General-Lieutenant Leopold Philipp Theodor von Heister
2: General-Lieutenant Wilhelm Reichsfreiherr zu Inn- und von Knyphausen
3: General-Lieutenant Friedrich Wilhelm von Lossberg

INFANTRY, SUMMER 1776

1: *Füsilier*, Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen
2: *Füsilier*, Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg
3: *Sergeant*, Grenadier-Regiment Rall

INFANTRY, FALL 1776
1: *Musketier*, Musketier-Regiment Landgraf
2: *Füsilier*, Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth
3: *Füsilier*, Füsilier-Regiment Erbprinz

INFANTRY, 1777–78

1: Junior officer, Musketier-Regiment von Trümbach
2: *Freicorporal*, Leib-Infanterie-Regiment
3: Drummer, Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg

INFANTRY, 1780

1: *Grenadier*, 2. Bataillon, Regiment Garde
2: *Grenadier*, 3. Bataillon, Regiment Garde
3: *Gemeiner*, Garnisons-Regiment von Huyn

JÄGER

1: *Jäger zu Fuß*, Feldjäger Corps
2: *Jäger zu Pferde*, Feldjäger Corps
3: *Waldhornist*, Feldjäger Corps

ARTILLERY AND ENGINEERS

1: Artilleryman
2: Artillery officer
3: Engineer officer

FIRST-AID STATION
1: *Pionier*, Garnisons-Regiment von Wissenbach
2: Regimental surgeon
3: Company surgeon

Musicians: white lace with an orange stripe. **Drum hoops:** orange/white with narrow light-blue stripe between. **Company colors:** orange field and corner wedges. Silver cyphers and silver-and-green laurel wreaths. White pike. White flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or orange (company colors).

Garnisons-Regiment von Wissenbach

Raised 1684. *Chefs*: Obrist Moritz Adolph von Wissenbach (1763); General-Major Hans von Knoblauch (1780). Renamed von Knoblauch in 1780. **Major actions:** Fort Washington; battle of Savannah; Stono Ferry; siege of Savannah. **Uniform generalities:** white collar and cuffs; no lapels. White waistcoat and breeches. White buttons. **Officers:** black hat bound with narrow silver edging; silver button; silver-and-red tassels. **NCOs:** narrow horizontal silver edging along top of white cuff and side and top of *patte*, within which were two vertical white buttons. Black hat bound with narrow silver edging and white pompon and tassels with red centers. **Musketeers:** hat with no tape edging; white button; pompon and tassels white with gray (?) center. **Grenadiers:** cap with white-metal plate and crown; white bag with red-edged white cords; white pompon. **Musicians:** white lace with a red stripe. **Drum hoops:** light blue/white with narrow red stripe between. **Company colors:** white field and corner wedges. Silver cyphers and silver-and-green laurel wreaths. White pike. Black flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or red (company colors).

Garnisons-Regiment von Huyn

Raised 1684. *Chefs*: Johann Christoph von Huyn (1774); Obrist Ferdinand Ludwig von Benning (1780); Obrist Bernhard Friedrich

ABOVE LEFT
Officer and soldier of the Garnisons-Regiment von Stein in 1776. It seems likely that the bayonet worn here would have been supplemented with a hanger for active service in North America. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

ABOVE RIGHT
Officer and soldier of the Garnisons-Regiment von Wissenbach in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

ABOVE LEFT
Officer and soldier of the Garnisons-Regiment von Huyn in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

ABOVE RIGHT
Officer and soldier of the Garnisons-Regiment von Bünau in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

von Normann (1783). Renamed von Benning in 1780 and von Normann in 1783. **Major actions:** Fort Washington; Rhode Island; Charleston. **Uniform generalities:** yellow collar and cuffs; no lapels. Yellow waistcoat and breeches. White buttons. **Officers:** hat bound with narrow silver edging; silver button; silver-and-red tassels. **NCOs:** narrow horizontal silver edging along top of yellow cuff and side and top of *patte*, within which were two vertical white buttons. Black hat bound with narrow silver edging and white pompon and tassels with red centers. **Musketeers:** hat with no tape edging; white button; yellow pompon and tassels. See Plate E3. **Grenadiers:** cap with white-metal plate and crown; yellow bag with white and yellow in a zigzag pattern; yellow pompon. **Musicians:** white lace with a red stripe. **Drum hoops:** yellow/light blue with narrow red stripe between. **Company colors:** yellow field and corner wedges. Silver cyphers and silver-and-green laurel wreaths. White pike. White flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or red (company colors).

Garnisons-Regiment von Bünau

Raised 1763. *Chef*: Obrist Rudolph von Bünau. **Major actions:** Fort Washington; Rhode Island; Connecticut Farms and Springfield. **Uniform generalities:** crimson lining, collar, and cuffs; no lapels. White waistcoat and breeches. White buttons. **Officers:** hat bound with narrow silver edging; silver button; silver-and-red tassels. **NCOs:** narrow horizontal silver edging along top of crimson cuff and side and top of *patte*, within which were two vertical white buttons. Black hat bound with narrow silver edging and white pompon and tassels with red centers. **Musketeers:** hat with no tape edging; white button;

crimson pompon and tassels. **Grenadiers:** cap with white-metal plate and crown; crimson bag with white cords; white pompon. **Musicians:** white lace with a crimson stripe. **Drum hoops:** crimson/white with narrow medium-blue stripe between. **Company colors:** crimson field and corner wedges. Silver cyphers and gold-and-green laurel wreaths. Black pike. Black flag case with tassels in white (*Leibfahne*) or dark blue (company colors).

Hessian grenadier battalions

The **Grenadier-Bataillon von Linsing** was formed in January 1776 with the flank-grenadier company of the 2. Bataillon and the grenadier company of the 3. Bataillon of the Regiment Garde, and the grenadier companies of the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment and the Musketier-Regiment von Mirbach. On July 1, 1783 the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment (previously von Wutginau) grenadier company was transferred to this battalion and the von Jung-Lossberg (previously von Mirbach) grenadier company to the Grenadier-Bataillon von Lengerke. Commanded by Obristlieutenant Otto Christian Wilhelm von Linsing. **Major actions:** Long Island; White Plains; Brandywine; Germantown; Fort Mercer; Monmouth Court House; Charleston.

The **Grenadier-Bataillon Block** was formed in January 1776 with the grenadier companies of the von Wutginau, Prinz Carl, von Donop, and von Trümbach regiments. On July 1, 1783 the von Jung-Lossberg (previously von Mirbach) grenadier company was transferred to this battalion and the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment (previously von Wutginau) grenadier company to the Grenadier-Bataillon von Linsing. Commanded by Obristlieutenant Justus Henrich Block (1776–77); Obristlieutenant Georg Emanuel von Lengerke (1777–84). The battalion was renamed von Lengerke in 1777. **Major actions:** Long Island; White Plains; Brandywine; Fort Mercer; Monmouth Court House; Charleston.

The **Grenadier-Bataillon von Minnigerode** was formed in January 1776 with the grenadier companies of the Erbprinz, von Ditfourth, von Lossberg, and von Knyphausen fusilier regiments. Commanded by Obristlieutenant Friedrich Ludwig von Minnigerode (1776–79) and Obristlieutenant Wilhelm von Löwenstein (1780–84). The battalion was renamed von Löwenstein in 1780. **Major actions:** Long Island; White Plains; Fort Mercer; Monmouth Court House; Charleston.

The **Grenadier-Bataillon Köhler** was formed in February 1776 with the flank-grenadier company of the Grenadier-Regiment Rall and the grenadier companies of the von Stein, von Wissenbach, and von Bünau garrison regiments. Commanded by Obristlieutenant Johann Christoph Köhler (1776–78); Major Wilhelm Graff (1778–81); Major Friedrich Platte (1782–85). The battalion was renamed Graff in 1778 and Platte in 1782. **Major actions:** Fort Washington; Charleston.

Feldjäger Corps

One company raised in 1774. In 1776 two new companies were raised to serve in North America. In 1777 the corps was increased to five foot and one mounted company to serve in North America. **Major actions:** detachments served in nearly every major action in which Hessian troops were engaged as well as in numerous smaller skirmishes.

A drummer of the Land-Grenadier Regiment (earlier named the Grenadier-Regiment Rall) in 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

Officer, NCO, hornist, and *Jäger* of the Feldjäger Corps, 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

Uniform generalities: dark-green coat with crimson facings and lining. *Paille* waistcoat until 1777 when it was changed to dark green. Yellow buttons. White breeches for officers and mounted *Jäger*, dark green for all others. See Plates F1, F2, and F3. The mounted company wore boots with spurs affixed to the heels. They carried sabers instead of *Hirschfänger*. Their musicians carried trumpets instead of the French horns used by the foot companies. In early April 1777, when Lieutenant-General Charles, Earl Cornwallis visited the *Jäger* posts and saw the men's ragged clothing and hard duty, he ordered 200 complete uniforms that had recently arrived for the Provincial Corps to be issued to the *Jäger*. These coats were green with white facings, white baize lining, and white buttons, and were worn with white waistcoat and breeches. Two pairs of shoes and stockings, two rollers, one round hat, one pair of buckles, and two yards of woolen cloth for leggings were also issued. One Hessian officer noted that these uniforms were lighter and more comfortable than the regular *Jäger* uniforms. Also, the facings and lining could easily be dyed red. **Musicians:** lace was yellow with a crimson stripe.

Feldartillerie Corps

Three companies served in North America. Detachments were assigned to service the two guns assigned to each regiment and battalion. **Major actions:** the detachments assigned to man the guns of each regiment and battalion served with them in all the major actions in which their units were engaged. **Uniform generalities:** crimson lining, cuffs, and lapels; no collar. *Paille* waistcoat and breeches. Gold buttons. **Officers:** hat with wide gold

Officer, NCO, and gunner of the Feldartillerie Corps in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

scalloped edging; black cockade held with a gold loop; silver tassels with red center. Gold Brandenburgs on coat: two under each lapel, two on each sleeve above the cuff, and two on each pocket flap. See Plate G2. **NCOs:** hat with narrow gold edging; gold button; pompon and tassels white with red center. Gold lace on cuffs and *pattes*. **Privates:** hat with narrow white tape and yellow button; pompon and tassels crimson with blue center. White shoulder belt with pick. Black cartridge box with brass plate on waist belt. See Plate G1. **Musicians:** lace was yellow with a crimson stripe. **Drum hoops:** medium blue/white with narrow crimson stripe between.

Ingenieur Corps

Uniform generalities: no lapels; black collar and cuffs. *Paille* waistcoat and breeches. Yellow buttons. **Officers:** hat with wide gold scalloped edging; black cockade held with a gold loop; silver tassels with red centers. Gold Brandenburgs on coat. Silver-and-red sword knot. No sash. See Plate G3. **NCOs:** hat bound with narrow gold lace; gold button; silver tassels with red centers. No Brandenburgs on coat. No sash and no sword knot.

Engineer officer, *Conducteur*, and *Platz-Major* in 1776. (Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg, E 195/6)

The first combined battalion, 1776–78

Following the defeat and capture of most of the regiments von Lossberg, von Knyphausen, and Rall at Trenton on December 26, 1776, along with the loss of their 15 colors and six cannon, the majority of the survivors initially assembled at Bordentown, New Jersey, before being sent, 753 strong, to New York City to rest and be re-equipped and resupplied. On January 21, 11 officers, 62 NCOs, two surgeon's mates, 16 musicians, and 451 other ranks of the battalion were fit for duty. Many others were on command, sick or wounded. At the beginning of February 1777 Obristlieutenant Ernst Rudolf von Schieck of the Musketier-Regiment von Mirbach took command just before the battalion returned to New Jersey. On March 23, Obrist Johann August von Loos, recently appointed commander of the Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg, took command of the combined battalion. In the middle of April, two light brass 6-pounders were delivered to the battalion.

On July 8, 517 strong, the battalion embarked aboard transports as part of General Sir William Howe's expedition to capture Philadelphia. On July 23 the fleet sailed from Sandy Hook. After a long voyage, during which 53 of the battalion became sick and had to be transferred to a hospital ship, the unit disembarked at Head of Elk, Maryland, on August 25. The battalion was not heavily engaged at the battle of Brandywine on September 11 and suffered no casualties. Several days later the battalion escorted wounded soldiers and prisoners of war to Wilmington, Delaware. It remained here in garrison until October 13 when it returned to the Philadelphia area.

On November 26 Obrist Johann Wolfgang Friedrich von Wöllwarth, the recently appointed *Chef* of the former Grenadier Regiment Rall, now renamed von Wöllwarth, arrived with recruits from Hessen. Because he outranked Obrist von Loos, General-Lieutenant von Knyphausen immediately appointed Wöllwarth commander of the combined battalion. On December 2 the battalion was divided into a brigade of two battalions with von Loos commanding the first battalion and Major Johann Friedrich von Stein the second. Obrist von Wöllwarth commanded the unit, which was now called the Wöllwarth Brigade.

On New Year's Day 1778 the brigade was issued new uniforms. Instead of fusilier and grenadier caps, however, they all received hats. The soldiers of the three regiments captured at Trenton and later exchanged did not receive new hangers until 1781. On March 28, 1778, 12 of the officers who had been captured at Trenton arrived in Philadelphia on parole, followed by 12 more on April 20. Released from their paroles on May 13, they returned to active duty. On June 13, von Wöllwarth died of sickness aboard a hospital ship on the Delaware River and von Loos again took command of the brigade.

On June 15, during the evacuation of Philadelphia, the brigade crossed the Delaware to begin General Sir Henry Clinton's march through New Jersey to New York. The brigade was minimally engaged at the battle of Monmouth Court House on June 28, suffering no combat casualties or deaths from the excessive heat. There were numerous desertions during the march through New Jersey, however: 47 *Einländer* and 26 *Ausländer*

deserted from the brigade. On July 6 the brigade embarked and sailed up the Hudson River. Landing the next day, they marched to Fort Knyphausen on July 8 and encamped.

With many of the captured soldiers being exchanged in June and July 1778, on July 25 the three regiments resumed their regimental formations.

The second combined battalion, 1781–83

On September 11, 1779, the fusilier regiments von Lossberg and von Knyphausen under the command of Obrist von Loos of the former regiment sailed from New York bound for Quebec. Encountering a violent storm soon after leaving the harbor, the fleet was scattered. Of the six transports carrying the Hessian troops one, the *Adamant*, carrying two companies of the Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg, sank with all hands. Two others, the *Triton* and *Molly*, carrying 3½ companies of the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen, were dismasted and captured by American privateers. On October 9 the *Badger*, carrying one company and a small part of another of the Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg, was captured by another American privateer, the captain of which transferred four of the five officers and 11 other ranks to his ship but left one sick officer and the regimental surgeon on board the transport. One day later, the transport was recaptured by HMS *Solebay* and escorted back to New York. Another transport, the *King George*, carrying Obrist von Loos plus one company and the majority of another of the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen, also returned to New York. The *Archer*, carrying 1½ von Knyphausen companies, proceeded on the voyage and stopped at St. John's Island (now Prince Edward Island) where the troops under Obrist Henrich von Borck disembarked and spent the winter before completing their voyage to Quebec.

The three companies of the Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg which had returned to New York were assigned winter quarters at Herricks on Long Island. On April 1, 1780 they marched to Flushing Fly and in early May received orders to hold themselves in readiness to embark. On April 15 they embarked aboard two transports at Brooklyn. On the *James & William* were von Loos and his company, a part of Obristlieutenant Franciscus Scheffer's company, the regimental artillery, and 20 exchanged Braunschweig soldiers. Aboard the *Felicity* were Capitaine Ernst Eberhard von Altenbockum's company, the remainder of Scheffer's company, and 38 men from the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen. Sailing from New York on the April 18, the convoy anchored off Sandy Hook and waited for other ships heading to Newfoundland, Halifax, and England to join. Finally, on May 27 the fleet departed on its voyage. The *James & William* and the *Felicity* arrived at Quebec on June 25, followed by the *Archer* from St. John's Island four days later.

By the end of 1780, nine officers, 22 NCOs, three surgeon's mates, and 99 privates of the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen, who had been captured aboard the *Triton* and *Molly* in September 1779, had been exchanged and returned to New York. In early January 1781, General-Lieutenant von Knyphausen formed a temporary battalion of these officers and men and the convalescents and recruits in New York belonging to regiments stationed elsewhere. Major von Stein of the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen was appointed commander of this unit.

On January 8, 1781, about 170 strong, the battalion embarked in small craft at the Albany pier in New York City, went through Hell Gate in the

A sergeant of the Füsilier-Regiment von Alt-Lossberg in 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

RIGHT
A drummer of the Musketier-Regiment von Bose in 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

FAR RIGHT
A drummer of the Füsilier-Regiment von Alt-Lossberg in 1786. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

East River, and from there to Flushing, Long Island to protect the magazines and depots on that part of the island. This was a very brief assignment as the battalion returned to New York City on January 21. On March 4 the battalion marched from its cantonments in the Bowery to Kingsbridge on the northern edge of Manhattan Island to replace the British 76th Regiment of Foot. The battalion remained here until the end of April when it proceeded to New York City on its way to Denyse's Ferry on Long Island in present-day Brooklyn at Fort Hamilton, where it arrived on May 2.

The strength of the battalion fluctuated as men arrived and departed, but was usually several hundred officers and men. On July 30, 1781, two captains, two lieutenants, one ensign, one sergeant, one drummer, 35 other ranks, four women, and three children from the Füsilier-Regiment von Alt-Lossberg, who had been attached to the combined battalion, sailed in a convoy from New York to join the three companies in Quebec. One transport in the convoy carried extra provisions for the three companies of the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen stationed at Quebec, which were being recalled to New York.

Meanwhile, some of the Hessian recruits who had arrived at New York on August 11, 1781 in that year's recruit transport were sent to join the combined battalion at Denyse's Ferry. On August 18, the combined battalion left Denyse's Ferry and crossed to New York where it was quartered. When Obrist von Borck, one captain, two ensigns, 19 NCOs, and 174 men of the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen arrived at New York from Quebec on October 28, those members of the regiment serving in the combined battalion rejoined their comrades and the regiment was re-formed. From this point on, it appears that the combined battalion was always colocated with the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen.

Following Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown on October 19, 1781, the men of the two captured Hessian regiments, Erbprinz and von Bose, who

had been absent at New York, were assigned to the combined battalion. On Christmas day 1781, a fleet escorted by HMS *Charlestown* sailed for Charleston with officers, men, women, children, and servants belonging to regiments serving in the Southern District. Among these were 371 Hessians, many of whom had no doubt been temporarily serving in the combined battalion.

On August 29, 1782, one lieutenant, one *Freicorporal*, and 24 recruits, the latter having arrived at New York in the 1781 recruit transport and served in the combined battalion, sailed for Quebec in a convoy escorted by HMS *Astrea*. They carried with them the regimental field pieces, clothing for the officers and men of the three companies stationed in Quebec, and regimental equipment. This group arrived at Quebec on October 6. After embarking aboard the transports *Vernon* and *Friend's Adventure* on August 2, 1783, the three companies sailed from the Île du Bic on August 18 on their return voyage to Europe.

In early November 1782, the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen and the combined battalion took up their winter quarters in Jamaica, Long Island. When the troops from Charleston returned to New York in early January 1783, a detachment of two officers, two staff personnel, five sergeants, four drummers, and 57 other ranks of the Musketier-Regiment von Bose were ordered to join the combined battalion at Jamaica. In May, shortly after the return of the imprisoned men of the Erbprinz and von Bose regiments to New York, the last of the men serving in the combined battalion rejoined their regiments and the battalion ceased to exist.

Provisional *chasseur* companies

During the war the Hessians organized four provisional companies of chasseurs to serve as light infantry on campaign. The officers and men were selected from the infantry regiments. Unlike the *Jäger*, who were often called *chasseurs*, the men in the *chasseur* companies were infantrymen armed with regular muskets and bayonets rather than rifles.

The first two companies were formed in December 1776 at Rhode Island, with 25 men being selected from each of the six Hessian regiments participating in the attack on the island – the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment, Prinz Carl, von Ditfourth, von Wutginau, von Huyn, and von Bünau. The first commander of the *chasseurs* was Staabs-Capitaine Johann George Seelig of the Musketier-Regiment Prinz Carl followed by Staabs-Capitaine Ludwig Eggerding of the Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth and Second-Lieutenant Friedrich Gombert of the Garnisons-Regiment von Bünau. By mid-July 1777 they were succeeded by Capitaine Friedrich Wilhelm von der Malsburg and Staabs-Capitaine August Christian Noltenius of the same regiments as their predecessors. Each man was to receive a blanket and cloth to make a pair of leggings. On May 6, 1777, the *chasseurs* of the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment and the Musketier-Regiment Prinz Carl were ordered to rejoin their regiments immediately, which were returning to New York. The *chasseurs* of the Musketier-Regiment Landgraf (previously named von Wutginau) rejoined their regiment in June 1779 when that regiment was recalled to New York. These two companies were disbanded when the British evacuated Rhode Island in October 1779 and returned to New York.

A third company was organized in New York in July 1778 to strengthen the Feldjäger Corps. Three officers, 13 NCOs, three drummers, and 100 privates were detached from their regiments to serve in this company. It was

Engraving of Obrist Friedrich Wilhelm von Lossberg, the final commander of the Hessen-Cassel corps in North America. He wears the uniform of the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment, to which he was transferred from the Musketier-Regiment von Donop and appointed commander on January 20, 1776. He was also appointed a brigade commander. Lossberg was promoted to *General-Major* effective May 24, 1777 and to *General-Lieutenant* March 7, 1781. In November 1780 he was appointed *Chef* of the Musketier-Regiment von Mirbach, renamed von Jung-Lossberg to differentiate it from the already existing Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg. Lossberg took command of the Hessian corps in America on May 8, 1782 and held it until the return of the last troops to Hessen in 1784. As he did not receive the *Hausorden vom Goldenen Löwen* visible on his left breast until after the war when he was no longer in the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment, it must have been added to this illustration subsequently. (Author's collection)

commanded by Staabs-Capitaine George Hanger of the Feldjäger Corps with Second-Lieutenant Ernst Wilhelm Andreson of the Füsilier-Regiment Erbprinz and another unidentified officer as his subordinates. At the end of the campaign, the officers and men returned to their regiments.

A fourth company was formed in December 1779 from 11 regiments in the New York garrison to accompany General Sir Henry Clinton's expedition to capture Charleston, South Carolina. It was commanded by Staabs-Capitaine George Hanger of the Feldjäger Corps with Second-Lieutenant Ernst Wilhelm Andreson and Fähnrich Johann Christian Gerhard Hartung of the Garnisons-Regiment von Huyn as his subordinates. Hanger did not embark with the company on board the transport *Ann*, but instead accompanied Sir Henry Clinton. Each man was to be furnished with two good shirts, one pair of woolen breeches, gaiters, and shoes. Shortly after leaving New York the fleet encountered a violent storm during which the *Ann* was rammed by a hospital ship, which resulted in the loss of two of the *Ann*'s masts. After a warship made several unsuccessful attempts to tow the *Ann*, the transport finally lost sight of the fleet and wound up at St. Ives on the northwest coast of Cornwall, England, on February 26, 1780. Ordered to Plymouth, the company remained here in barracks until July when the *chasseurs* were taken to Portsmouth to join a convoy heading for America. Sailing on August 9, the *chasseurs* finally arrived back at New York on October 5, 1780, having lost only one man who deserted at Plymouth. After disembarking, the company was disbanded and the officers and men returned to their regiments.

Starckloff's Troop of Light Dragoons

In late 1780 and early 1781 American mounted troops under Brigadier Generals Thomas Sumter and Francis Marion (the "Swamp Fox") were creating havoc in the interior of South Carolina, even approaching within 15 miles of Charleston. Very rarely could the slow-moving British and Hessian infantry overtake them. To remedy this failing, in April 1781 a troop of light dragoons was formed in Charlestown from officers and men of the three Hessen-Cassel infantry regiments stationed in that province. These were the Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth, the Grenadier-Regiment d'Angelelli, and the Garnisons-Regiment von Benning. The troop consisted of acting Capitaine Friedrich Starckloff of the Garnisons-Regiment von Benning, acting Lieutenant Henrich Ernst Lorey of the Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth, three sergeants, three corporals, one surgeon's mate, one trumpeter, and 51 privates: 61 in all. The troop was placed on the Provincial establishment so the officers and men could receive the difference in pay between foot and cavalry.

When Lieutenant-Colonel Nisbet Balfour, British commandant in Charleston, South Carolina, saw the Hessians wearing their usual blue coats, he suggested to General-Major Carl von Bose, the senior Hessian officer in Charleston, that because the Americans wore blue and the Hessians could be mistaken for Rebels and fired upon, they should wear green coats instead. Bose agreed. The chaplain's assistant in the Garnisons-Regiment von Benning noted that the dragoons received short green jackets. All the horses in the city were collected and the best were selected for use by the dragoons.

On April 23, after being quickly formed, clothed, armed, and mounted, the troop departed Charleston for Eutaws. On May 12, Lieutenant Lorey,

one corporal, and 13 privates were captured at Motte's House. Lorey was quickly exchanged, followed by the other men. The troop continued to serve on duty outside Charleston until December 1781 when, shortly after his arrival at Charleston to take command of the Southern District, Lieutenant-General Alexander Leslie decided that the British were no longer strong enough to maintain posts in the interior of South Carolina and contracted his lines to the area on Charleston Neck and James Island. As there was no longer a need for the mounted Hessian dragoons, the troop was disbanded and the officers and men returned to their regiments.

RETURN FROM AMERICA

Eight regiments of Hessian troops returning to Europe at the war's end sailed from New York on August 15, 1783, followed by three more regiments and three battalions of grenadiers on November 12, and the remainder on November 25. Because the rivers in Germany had frozen before the November departures arrived in England, the returning troops wintered there until April 1784 when they finally returned to Germany. Three companies of the Musketier-Regiment von Alt-Lossberg, which had been serving in Quebec, Canada, sailed from the Île du Bic in the St. Lawrence River on August 16, 1783 to begin their voyage home via England. They arrived at Bremerlehe on September 21 and disembarked on the 25th.

A flank-grenadier of the 3. Bataillon, Regiment Garde, in the bearskin cap issued after the American Revolutionary War. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

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PLATE COMMENTARIES

A: SENIOR COMMANDERS

(1) General-Lieutenant Leopold Philipp Theodor von Heister

Leopold von Heister was the first of three officers to command the Hessen-Cassel corps in North America. He arrived with the first of two divisions of Hessian troops on August 12, 1776. Recalled by Landgraf Friedrich II, Heister sailed from New York on July 22, 1777. On November 19, 1777, shortly after his return to Hessen, he died aged 61. Heister is wearing the uniform of Dragoner-Regiment von Heister, of which he was the *Chef*. The white feather edging around the top of his hat denotes his general-officer rank. Suspended from a light-blue ribbon around his neck is the *Pour la vertu militaire*, which he received on March 5, 1769. On the left breast of his uniform coat is the *Hausorden vom Goldenen Löwen*, which he was awarded on November 20, 1775.

(2) General-Lieutenant Wilhelm Reichsfreiherr zu Inn- und von Knyphausen

Born on November 4, 1716, Wilhelm von Knyphausen entered Hessian service in 1734 as a *Fähnrich* (ensign). Rising through the ranks, he was promoted to *Obrist* in 1761, *General-Major* in 1764, and *General-Lieutenant* on September 22, 1775. Leading the second division of Hessian troops, Knyphausen arrived at New York on October 18, 1776. Upon General-Lieutenant von Heister's recall to Hessen, Knyphausen assumed command of the Hessen-Cassel corps on June 24, 1777. He served ably in that position until May 13, 1782 when, due to his deteriorating health, he departed New York to return to Hessen. Knyphausen wears the uniform of his Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen.

(3) General-Lieutenant Friedrich Wilhelm von Lossberg

Obrist Friedrich Wilhelm von Lossberg, *Commandeur* of the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment, arrived at New York on August 12, 1776. In 1780 he was promoted to *General-Major* and appointed *Chef* of the Musketier-Regiment von Jung-Lossberg. Effective March 7, 1781, he was promoted to *General-Lieutenant*. With the departure of General-Lieutenant von Knyphausen for Europe in May 1782, Lossberg assumed command of the Hessen-Cassel corps. He accompanied the last of the Hessian troops back to Hessen in 1784. Lossberg is shown wearing the uniform of the Musketier-Regiment von Jung-Lossberg. He wears the *Pour la vertu militaire*, which he received on May 23, 1772.

B: INFANTRY, SUMMER 1776

(1) *Füsilier*, Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen

General-Major Wilhelm von Knyphausen was appointed *Chef* of this fusilier regiment on April 10, 1765. Arriving at New York with the first division of the Hessians, the regiment participated in the battles of Long Island, White Plains, and Fort Washington. At Fort Washington the unit suffered very severe losses (one officer and six other ranks killed; three officers, five sergeants, and 58 other ranks wounded). Together with the Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg and Grenadier-Regiment Rall, it was one of the three units captured at Trenton on December 26, 1776. American records indicate that a total of 303 personnel surrendered (eight officers, 25 sergeants, six drummers, six officers' servants, and 258 other ranks). The remnants of the three regiments were initially formed into a combined battalion and later, when new recruits arrived from Europe, were reorganized into a brigade of two battalions (see page 38). This soldier is identified as a member of the Leib-Compagnie by the white fringe on his sword knot.

(2) *Füsilier*, Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg

In 1770, General-Lieutenant Henrich August von Lossberg was appointed *Chef* of this regiment. When the unit went to America, however, he remained behind in Hessen. The regiment arrived at New York on August 12, 1776. Initially landed on Staten Island, it was transferred to Long Island on August 25 and fought in the battle of Long Island two days later, suffering no casualties. Heavily engaged at the battle of White Plains on October 28, 1776, the regiment suffered the loss of six other ranks killed and one sergeant and 39 other ranks wounded. During the assault on Fort Washington on November 16, the regiment suffered five other ranks killed and one officer and 17 other ranks wounded. According to American records, a total of 274 regimental personnel (ten officers, 38 sergeants, six drummers, five musicians, nine officers' servants, and 206 other ranks) were captured at Trenton on December 26, 1776. The history of this unit between its defeat at Trenton and its reestablishment as a regiment in July 1778 is the same as that of the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen above. The light-red fringe on this soldier's sword knot identifies him as a member of the Obrist-Compagnie.

(3) *Sergeant*, Grenadier-Regiment Rall

To denote their rank, sergeants in all the infantry regiments carried halberds. Their sword knots were white with thin horizontal red stripes at the top, middle, and bottom of the white fringe. Excluding the 2. Bataillon of the Regiment Garde, which consisted wholly of grenadiers, the Grenadier-Regiment Rall was the only grenadier regiment in the army of Hessen-Cassel. Obrist Johann Gottlieb Rall was appointed *Chef* of this regiment in 1771. The flank-grenadier company was detached during the war to serve in the Grenadier-Battalion Köhler; the other five companies continued to serve together as a regiment.

At the battle of White Plains on October 28, 1776, the regiment lost two other ranks killed and one officer and three other ranks wounded. At the successful attack on Fort Washington on November 16, 1776, casualties were one drummer and two other ranks killed, and one officer and three other ranks wounded. At the battle of Trenton on December 26, 1776, a total of 303 regimental personnel (11 officers, two surgeon's mates, 25 sergeants, eight drummers, four musicians, nine officers' servants, and 244 other ranks) surrendered. The history of this unit between its defeat at Trenton and its reestablishment as a regiment in July 1778 is the same as that of the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen above.

C: INFANTRY, FALL 1776

(1) *Musketier*, Musketier-Regiment Landgraf

The orange fringe at the bottom of this private's sword knot identifies him as belonging to the Major-Compagnie. Musketier-Regiment Landgraf, commanded by Obrist Henrich Julius von Kospoth, suffered severe losses during the assault on Fort Washington on November 16, 1776, with two officers, one sergeant, and 13 other ranks killed, and two officers, three sergeants, and 59 other ranks wounded. The regiment was part of the force under Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton that

captured Rhode Island in early December 1776 and remained in garrison there. The regiment suffered no losses during the combined American/French attack on August 29, 1778.

Recalled to New York, the regiment sailed from Rhode Island on June 25, 1779. Shortly after its arrival there, it formed part of a force led by Major-General William Tryon that raided and burned the towns of New Haven, Fairfield, and Norwalk, Connecticut, during July 3–14, 1779. The regiment's losses during this expedition were one other rank killed, one sergeant and 16 other ranks wounded, and one other rank missing. During Knyphausen's incursion into New Jersey in June 1780, the regiment lost one other rank killed, one sergeant, eight other ranks, and two drummers wounded, and one other rank missing. Renamed the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment on March 13, 1783, the regiment remained in the New York garrison until November 13, 1783, when it sailed for England.

(2) *Füsilier*, Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth

Hidden beneath his watch coat, the green fringe on this soldier's sword knot identifies him as a member of the 5. Compagnie. General-Major Friedrich Maximilian August von Ditfourth was appointed chief of this fusilier regiment in 1766. Arriving off Staten Island in August 1776 under the command of Obrist Carl von Bose, the regiment remained on the island until October when, together with the Prinz Carl and Erbprinz regiments, it was transferred to New York. The regiment formed part of the Rhode Island garrison from its capture in December 1776 through its abandonment in October 1779. In July 1778 General-Major Wilhelm von Lossberg, commander of the Hessian troops in the garrison, remarked that, if he had to pick the best regiment there, he would name the Füsilier-Regiment von Ditfourth, considering the quality of its men who had grown up and become fine soldiers in it.

In April 1780 the regiment was part of a reinforcement sent from New York to South Carolina to join the siege of Charleston. Following the fall of the city in May of that year, the regiment remained in South Carolina until its evacuation in December 1782, when it returned to New York. It was part of that garrison until August 16, 1783, when it left New York to return to Germany.

(3) *Füsilier*, Füsilier-Regiment Erbprinz

The light-blue fringe on this deserter's sword knot identifies him as a member of the Obristlieutenant-Compagnie. The *Chef* of this regiment was Erbprinz Wilhelm, the eldest son of Landgraf Friedrich II and ruler of the independent county of Hanau. When the regiment sailed for America, the *Commandeur* of the regiment was General-Major Johann Daniel Stirn. As he was serving as a brigade commander, actual command of the regiment was exercised by Obrist Carl Wilhelm von Hachenberg. The regiment arrived at New York on August 12, 1776. Although present at the battle of Long Island on 27 August, it suffered no casualties. Two other ranks were wounded at the battle of White Plains on October 28 and another two at Fort Washington on November 16.

In 1780 the regiment changed from fusilier to musketeer status and reverted to crimson facings, silver Brandenburgs and buttons, and white waistcoats and breeches. The fusilier caps were put aside and hats were again worn. In March 1781 the regiment was part of a force sent to join the troops already in Virginia. They disembarked at Portsmouth, Virginia, on April 1 and participated in that campaign, which resulted in their surrender at Yorktown on October 19. Their losses during the siege were: two sergeants, two drummers, and 19 other ranks killed; seven sergeants, one drummer, and 49 other ranks wounded; and two sergeants and 14 rank and file missing. The regiment remained as prisoners of war until the war ended and they returned to New York in May 1783. During the return march from the still-standing prisoner-of-war barracks at Frederick, Maryland, seven NCOs, three drummers, 132 privates, and three servants deserted. Renamed Musketier-Regiment Prinz Friedrich after its new *Chef*, the son of Erbprinz Wilhelm, the regiment sailed from New York for Germany on August 16, 1783.

Front and rear views of a surviving fusilier cap worn by a soldier of the Füsilier-Regiment von Knyphausen. (Don Troiani Collection)

D: INFANTRY, 1777–78

(1) Junior officer, Musketier-Regiment von Trümbach

All officers of a regiment wore the same uniform with no distinctions of rank except for generals, who wore white feathers in their hats. General-Major Carl Levin von Trümbach was appointed *Chef* of this regiment in 1775. He was replaced as the regimental *Chef* by General-Major Carl von Bose in 1778. Initially commanded by Colonel Carl Ernst von Bischausen, the regiment arrived in America with the first division of Hessian troops. It remained posted on Staten Island until December 6, 1776, when it was finally transferred to New York City. The regiment participated in the capture of Forts Clinton and Montgomery in October 1777 with the loss of two other ranks missing.

The regiment was part of Knyphausen's push into New Jersey in June 1780. Its losses during this unsuccessful expedition were one other rank killed, seven other ranks wounded, and one other rank missing. In October, now commanded by Major Johann Christian DuBuy, the regiment accompanied Major-General Alexander Leslie to Virginia and then to Charleston to join the army commanded by Lieutenant-General Charles, Earl Cornwallis. It was heavily engaged at the battle of Guilford Court House in North Carolina on March 15, 1781 and suffered significant casualties: three sergeants and seven other ranks killed; two captains, two lieutenants, one ensign, six sergeants, three drummers, and 53 other ranks wounded; and one sergeant and two other ranks missing. One captain and one lieutenant subsequently died of their wounds.

Following the battle, the regiment accompanied Lord Cornwallis to Wilmington, North Carolina, and then northward to Yorktown, Virginia. During the siege of that town in September and October 1781, the regiment lost one captain, four sergeants, and 13 other ranks killed; one ensign, four sergeants, three drummers, and 32 other ranks wounded; and one sergeant and ten other ranks missing. Going into captivity, the regiment's personnel remained prisoners of war in Frederick, Maryland, until May 1783 when the war being ended, they returned to New York. They departed from there for Germany on August 16, 1783.

(2) *Freicorporal*, Leib-Infanterie-Regiment

The regimental colors were normally carried by a *Freicorporal* (officer-candidate). If none were available, they would probably have been carried by a senior NCO.

Until the infantry regiments were ranked according to their dates of formation in 1783, the Leib-Infanterie-Regiment ranked immediately after the Regiment Garde. Its *Chef* was Landgraf Friedrich II and the *Commandeur* was Obrist Friedrich Wilhelm von Lossberg. Because he was acting as a brigade commander, actual command of the regiment was held by Obrist Friedrich Wilhelm von Wurmb.

The regiment participated in the capture of Rhode Island in December 1776 and formed part of its garrison until called back to New York in May 1777. In July of that year it accompanied General Sir William Howe on his Philadelphia campaign. At the battle of Brandywine on September 11 it suffered minimal losses of one other rank killed and two wounded. On October 4 at the battle of Germantown, one sergeant and 13 other ranks were wounded. During the evacuation of Philadelphia and the subsequent march through New Jersey to New York, including the battle of Monmouth Court House on June 28, the regiment suffered no battle or heat-exhaustion losses, but 24 *Einländer* and three *Ausländer* deserted.

Setting out on the evening of February 25, 1779, the regiment formed part of a force under Major-General William Tryon that marched from Kingsbridge in upper Manhattan to Horseneck (now West Greenwich), Connecticut, arriving there at daybreak the following morning. Tryon's troops burned an American magazine and several ships lying in the harbor and set fire to a large part of the town before returning to Kingsbridge. The regiment was part of Knyphausen's incursion into New Jersey in June 1780. Its losses were one other rank killed and one officer, one drummer, and 17 other ranks wounded. The regiment continued serving in the New York garrison until November 12, 1783, when it commenced its return voyage to Europe. Because the rivers in Germany were frozen over by the time the regiment reached England, it wintered there and then finally completed its return home in April 1784.

(3) Drummer, Füsilier-Regiment von Lossberg

Each company in an infantry regiment had three drummers assigned. Flank-grenadier companies also had two fifers as part of their unit. In addition, one drum major and six *hautbois* formed part of the regimental staffs. As shown by the light-blue fringe on this drummer's sword knot, he is a member of the Obristlieutenant-Compagnie.

E. INFANTRY, 1780

(1) *Grenadier*, Flügel-Grenadier-Compagnie, 2. Bataillon, Regiment Garde

By terms of the treaty between Hessen-Cassel and Great Britain negotiated in early 1776, the Hessians were obliged to furnish four battalions of grenadiers, each with four companies. Because the Garnisons-Regiment von Huyn, one of the 15 infantry regiments included in the treaty, did not include a grenadier company, the Hessians added the flank-grenadier company of the 2. Bataillon, Regiment Garde, in order to reach the required number of 16 companies. This company was assigned to the Grenadier-Bataillon von Linsing.

In the 2. Bataillon, the initials "F L" on the bottom of the grenadier cap were enclosed within a red circle. The sword knot was white with black fringe. The Regiment Garde was the only infantry unit in the Hessen-Cassel army in which not only officers but all ranks wore an aiguillette on the right shoulder. The aiguillettes of the officers and NCOs were silver and those of the privates were white. The officers of the Garde companies were usually recalled and replaced annually.

(2) *Grenadier*, Grenadier-Compagnie, 3. Bataillon, Regiment Garde

Other than the design of the Brandenburgs, which were of a slightly different pattern from those of the 2. Bataillon, and the initials "F L" on the bottom of the grenadier cap being enclosed within a blue circle, the uniform of this battalion was the same as that of the 2. Bataillon. The sword knot had a black knot with white fringe, the reverse of the 2. Bataillon's.

(3) *Gemeiner*, Garnisons-Regiment von Huyn

The green fringe on the private's white sword knot indicates that he is a soldier in the 5. Compagnie of the regiment. Obrist Johann Christoph von Huyn was appointed *Chef* of this regiment in 1774 and accompanied it to North America in 1776. The regiment was part of Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton's force that captured Rhode Island in early December 1776 and remained in its garrison until October 1779, when the British evacuated it and returned to New York. In December 1779 the regiment accompanied Clinton south to

besiege Charleston. After the fall of that city, it remained in the province as part of the occupying force until December 1782 when Charleston was abandoned and the garrison returned to New York. The regiment served in the New York garrison until August 16, 1783, when it departed for Germany.

F: *JÄGER*

(1) *Jäger zu Fuß*, Feldjäger Corps

Inspecting the first company of *Feldjäger* at Stade, Germany, on March 20, 1776, Colonel William Faucitt noted that "the Chasseurs are a stout, active Body of Men, armed with Rifle-Barrel Guns, to the Use of which they are thoroughly inured, being all, without Exception, Chasseurs by Profession, and as they are commanded by skillful, experienced officers, They cannot fail of being very serviceable" (State Papers, Class 81, vol. 183, The National Archives, Kew).

The first two companies of *Feldjäger zu Fuß* sent to America in 1776 wore green coats with crimson facings, yellow buttons, and *paille* (straw-colored or buff) waistcoats and breeches. Beginning in 1777, when the corps was augmented with an additional three foot companies and one mounted company, the *Feldjäger zu Fuß* switched to green waistcoats and breeches.

(2) *Jäger zu Pferde*, Feldjäger Corps

On December 10, 1776, Obrist von Donop, commander of the two companies of *Feldjäger zu Fuß*, received an order from General Sir William Howe authorizing him to mount 14 *Jäger* to be used for patrolling. Capitaine Friedrich Heinrich Lorey was given command of this small unit and in 24 hours, 12 strong, they were mounted and ready for duty. No information has been discovered regarding any special clothing worn by this small contingent.

In March 1777, when Colonel William Faucitt inspected and mustered a company of *Feldjäger zu Pferde* upon its entry into British service, he noted that the only differences in equipment from that of the *Feldjäger zu Fuß* were the use of boots with spurs and sabers instead of swords. Also, the company had trumpets instead of French horns.

(3) *Waldhornist*, Feldjäger Corps

Three *Waldhornisten* were assigned to each foot company and the same number of trumpeters to the mounted company. Their purpose was to signal commands to their companies.

A rare rear view of a soldier of the 2. Bataillon, Regiment Garde, in 1786. Unlike the red bags on the caps of the grenadiers of the *Flügel-Grenadier-Compagnie*, which served in America, the bags on the caps of the other five grenadier companies in the battalion, which did not serve in America, were yellow. From the collection of uniform plates by J.C. Müller after J.H. Carl, published in *Armée Hessoise*. (Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection, Brown University Library)

G: ARTILLERY AND ENGINEERS

(1) Artilleryman

Artillerymen were attached to service the two double-fortified brass 3-pounder cannons assigned to each regiment. Available documents in the Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg suggest that one bombardier (NCO), five gunners, and five matrosses crewed each gun.

(2) Artillery officer

In many cases, an artillery officer was attached to each infantry regiment or battalion to command the artillerymen manning the unit's two guns.

(3) Engineer officer

The only Hessian engineer officer to serve in America was Capitaine Reinhard Jacob Martin. On January 30, 1776, he was appointed assistant quartermaster general and subsequently came to America with the first division of Hessian troops. Many of the maps Martin drew are in the Wilhelmshöher Kriegskartensammlung (WHK 28 and 29) at the Hessisches Staatsarchiv Marburg. A few others are in the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Capitaine Martin died of illness at New York on May 27, 1780, and was succeeded by Lieutenant Charles Auguste de Gironcourt de Vomecourt of the Hessian Field Artillery Corps.

H: FIRST-AID STATION

1) *Pionier*, Garnisons-Regiment von Wissenbach

Prior to entry into British service, each infantry regiment had six pioneers assigned to its grenadier company. As these companies were detached from their regiment and formed into separate grenadier battalions, it seems most likely that five of the pioneers were reassigned to the other companies in the regiment. The grenadier company of the Garnisons-Regiment von Wissenbach served in the Grenadier-Bataillon Köhler, which was composed of the grenadier companies of the garrison regiments. It departed New York to return to Germany on November 12, 1783.

(2) Regimental surgeon

Each Hessian regiment had one regimental surgeon assigned. They all wore the same uniforms with no regimental distinctions.

(3) Company surgeon

Unlike the British and Americans, who had one junior surgeon assigned to each regiment, the Hessians had one to each company. As with the regimental surgeons, the company surgeons wore the same uniforms without any regimental distinctions.

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Dedication

The author dedicates this book to the memory of his friend, mentor, and colleague, Albert W. Haarmann. Al spent 20 years in the US Air Force. During a three-year tour in the early 1960s at Lindsey Air Station in Wiesbaden, Germany, Headquarters, United States Air Force Europe, Al spent much of his free time researching the history of the Hessian troops in North America during the American Revolutionary War. He became friends and exchanged information with many well-known German historians such as Dr. Hans Bleckwenn and Georg Ortenburg. After returning to the United States, Al's last assignment before retiring was in the Washington, DC, area. He spent many days off at the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress continuing his research concerning all the German troops who served in America from 1776 through 1783. Al's articles have appeared in many noted publications such as the *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research*, *Military Collector & Historian: Journal of The Company of Military Historians*, and the *Zeitschrift für Heerskunde*. When Al decided to switch his subject of research, he gave much of his extensive Revolutionary War collection of notes, drawings, photographs, etc. to the author. Without this treasure trove of information, this book could not have been written.

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